NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER-----FOR THE FARM, FIELD AND FIRESIDE.

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Correspondence.

Communications on farm subjects are solicited from subscribers and readers. All such communications and queries should be accompanied by the *name of the writer*, not for publication, but simply as a guarantee of good faith.

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DARLING & KEITH,

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Editorial.

FEBRUARY ON THE FARM.

February is upon us, that short month that we are so apt to consider of little account, simply because it is short. But did you ever notice that the sun shines more hours in February than in either January, December or November? If you doubt it, let the children get the almanac and reckon up the hours of sunshine in each of those months. The lengthening days constantly remind us that spring and another busy season is approaching, and the best thing we can do now is to make ready for the labors and duties that will come with it. We feel pretty sure now that we are on the bright side of winter, especially if we can see that the hay mows are not half used up. Still, it will not do to waste a pound of fodder, for we do not know how backward the spring may be, and it is a long while before there will be much green grass in the pastures. If the winter store of fodder proves short, let this year's experience stimulate you to put in an acre or two of winter rye next fall for cutting and feeding green in the spring. If it should not be needed, it can be cut for hay, or it may stand and go to seed. There is nothing like having enough of all the good things, and we know of nothing that seems so full of goodness for cattle in a cold, backward spring as plenty of green rye just beginning to head out.

Feeding Coarse Fodder.

There was a great amount of Indian corn grown in New England last season, and where it was cut at the roots early, and well stooked, the fodder is now giving both cattle and their owners good satisfaction. But it will be best to feed it during cold weather rather than wait till spring. Stalks and straw of all kinds on which the grain has been allowed to ripen, contain an undue proportion of heat producing material, and can be used up with better economy during cold weather than in summer. This is particularly the case with oxen and horses which are being wintered in comparative idleness. The principal use made of their food is in keeping the body warm. Cows in milk, and young growing animals require food richer in flesh-forming material, and if we have both good and poor fodder in our barns to feed out, it will be better to give the richest to the cows and young cattle. It used to be the fashion with many farmers, to feed the best hay to the horses and oxen, because these went occasionally on the road, and they would be ashamed to have skin and bones appear too prominent, while the cows that remained at home could shrink almost to a shadow without attracting notice. This is all wrong. If anything must be stinted, let it be the idle animals. Cows are never idle; they are either producing milk or growing a calf, probably both, and in either case they require good, rich food, and plenty of it.

Study Economy.

The season of 1880 was so dry throughout New England generally, that it can hardly be doubted, that there is a short supply of fodder now in store. There was so little after-feed in the fall that farmers had to begin feeding from the hay mows much earlier than usual. We know of many who fed through the entire summer, for the first time in their farm experience. As it is always a poor time to purchase fodder when it is scarce, we must advise all who find themselves short, to buy and feed some grain to make the hay hold out. It is better to borrow money to buy grain for cattle, than to run in debt for more land to raise food on. When you purchase grain to feed, you are purchasing a fertilizer that will make your farm richer and more productive, and one acre of rich land at home, is worth more than two acres of poor land a long way off.

Farm produce that is to be sold will probably bring as much now, allowing for shrinkage, as if kept till spring. The best time usually to sell anything, is when a good, fair offer is received. Fruits and vegetables are perishable, and cannot be held too long without loss. Where one's market is in the near town or village, he will often find the most buyers during very cold weather, and when the roads are more or less obstructed. Quick sales are quite as desirable to peddlers as high prices. But when marketing fruits and vegetables in very cold weather, they must be covered securely under blankets while handling. Frozen potatoes don't sell worth a cent, and if they are only chilled they are looked upon with suspicion.

Young Stock.

Very soon now, an increase of stock may be looked for. Early lambs are far more profitable than late ones, provided they are attended to in season, and are well cared for during cold weather. Good breeders may generally be trusted to take care of their young if they are provided with quarters sufficiently dry, clean and warm, otherwise there will be some night watching required. Old sheep will endure very cold weather, but at lambing time, they will not be injured in the least by being confined in a warm apartment where there are no cold winds to chill or kill the young things. *Inexperienced* ewes may require a little training to make them own their young. It is sometimes necessary to confine them in a cage or rack, where they can not get away, nor injure their lambs when trying to suck. Pigs, too, can not come too early in the spring, provided they can be saved from freezing, and are to be fattened the same year. February and March pigs make the very best of pork for Thanksgiving. Breeding sows are safest when kept in pens with plank floor, and with a fender of poles or joist placed around the side a few inches from the wall. This will prevent the mother from crushing her pigs against the sides of the pen.

Early Chickens.

It is quite time now, to think about a few early chickens, if eggs are any object at Thanksgiving time. It is a good deal of work to bring up chickens in cold weather, but if one has a suitable place, and will attend to them carefully, they will often pay as well as any live stock on the farm. Cold feet probably kills and cripples more early chickens than any or all other causes. A stove in a chicken house seldom does much good, because the heat does not get down to the floor. Warm feet, pure air, and plenty of nourishing food given at frequent intervals, are the three requisites to success with early chickens. Whoever is ingenious enough to secure these, will have nice broilers for sale in May and June, and plenty of eggs in October and November.

The Apple Crop.

If you are not wholly disgusted with the apple crop, and have trees to be grafted, now is the time to cut scions. It may be that a change of variety would help us out of difficulty in many cases. We certainly have too many fall apples, unless we will take some means for drying or canning them. Porters would hardly bring any price last fall; there were too many of them, beside people call for a red apple with a skin that will bear more bruising without spoiling the looks of the apple. Some of the Connecticut farmers are grafting their early fruit to very late keepers, and expect to see a profit in the change. If the grape vines were not pruned in the fall, prune them now, and it will relieve the mind. It will do no harm to prune them a month or two later, but if left now they may be forgotten till it is too late. Many people think this is a good time for pruning fruit trees. If the wounds are coated with shellac varnish soon after the limbs are sawed off, probably no harm will be done. It is the manner of doing, quite as much as the time, that influences the success attending cutting limbs from fruit trees.

The seed and plant catalogues have begun to arrive, and all the best ones will probably be issued during this month. After looking them over carefully, decide on what you will need, and order early, before the supply is exhausted. Don't invest too largely in novelties, but stick to old and well tried friends and acquaintances. There are a few new good things brought out every year, but the number is small.

THE VERMONT DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

Its Past and Its Future.

The annual winter meeting of the Vermont Dairymen's Association, of which we gave some account in our last issue, closed its three day's session at St. Albans on Friday afternoon, Jan. 21, it being the twelfth meeting of the series. The first was held at the Welden House, St. Albans, in the year 1870, on the same days of the week and month as the present year, and in the same building, though not in the same room, the hall then occupied being now used as a dining room.

The Association had been organized at Montpelier on the previous 27th day of October, when E. D. Mason of Richmond, was elected president, and O. S. Bliss of Georgia, secretary. Both these gentlemen have occupied those offices, respectively, to the present time. The first lecture delivered before the Association was by Henry Lane of Cornwall, on the subject of Sugar Beet Culture for Stock Feeding. The Association has published reports of its meetings from its organization in 1869–70; the ninth being incorporated in the volume of the State Board of Agriculture, for the year 1878, since which date, for the lack of adequate funds, no reports have been published.

The cost of annual membership is two dollars per year, and if all the names that have been enrolled on the membership list had been continued as annual members, the Association would not have been lacking in funds, but by a clause in the constitution, life membership could be secured by the payment at one time, of five dollars, a privilege that the large majority have availed themselves of, thus leaving the Association dependent for its support chiefly upon the addition from year to year of new members.

It is possible that the Association could have been sustained with no aid in the way of speakers from outside the State lines, though it is hardly probable that it would have been. As it is, the Vermont Dairymen's Association, it is safe to say, stands second to no similar organization in the United States or the world. Looking back through its fifteen hundred closely printed pages, may be found the names of almost every prominently known dairy writer or lecturer in the country, such names as N. A. Willard, who delivered the first lecture before the Association upon the special work before it; Hon. Thomas G. Alvord, vice president of the American Dairymen's Association; L. B. Arnold, for a long time secretary and now president of that Association; Harris Lewis, whose name is familiar to every American dairyman; T. D. Curtis, one of the most sensible of writers on all dairy matters; Charles L. Flint, for more than a quarter of a century the secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture; T. S. Gold, the able and efficient secretary of the Connecticut State Board; Prof. E. J. Wickson, editor and dairyman; Henry Stewart of the *American Agriculturist*; Dr. E. L. Sturtevant, whose name is familiar to every scientific agricultural investigator; Prof. E. L. Stewart, editor and practical dairyman; J. O. Adams, secretary of the New Hampshire Board of Agriculture; Dr. W. O. Atwater of the Connecticut Experiment Station, and Dr. Cressy, veterinary surgeon, besides many others of the more or less celebrated names connected with the business of dairying in some of its varied forms. Nor should such names among Vermont's own citizens be forgotten as those of Gov. Smith, President Buckham, Col. Mead and Prof. Perkins. These are a few and only a few of the many who have contributed towards the usefulness and popularity of the Association.

The writer has attended and taken part in six of the twelve meetings already held, and although he had the impression each year that so good a session could hardly be expected again, yet he does not remember of a single meeting that did not seem as good or better than any that had preceded it.

The meeting, this year, outgrew the large hall connected with the Welden House, and Armory Hall had to be secured for the second day; between four and five hundred persons being present, and that, too, without any special effort having been put forth to "draw" a large audience. And what was particularly cheering, was the fact that a very large proportion of the audience, even to the closing day, was composed of women, who showed by their presence and the marked attention given to the lectures and discussions, that they are as deeply interested in the success of agriculture in Vermont, as are their husbands, fathers or brothers. We observed, too, this year, a larger sprinkling of young men than usual, some of whom were yet only boys, but who showed a deep interest in the object of the meeting. We have felt a deep anxiety for the future of the Association, from the fact that there seems no sure source of material aid, and no organization of this kind can be carried on successfully without having it cost something.

Too much credit can hardly be given to the Secretary, who, with his deep interest in the investigation of dairy subjects and his wide acquaintanceship with the prominent dairymen of the country, has been enabled to draw around him at these meetings, through a system of exchange of services, the very best talent engaged in the work, and at a cost to the Association, that is, to say the least, exceedingly small. Gov. Smith, in his connection with the railroads of the State, as well as by his personal presence at many of the meetings, has also aided the Association very materially, from its organization to the present time. Still there is an impression in the minds of many of the best friends of the Association, that it is not planted as firmly among the institutions of the country as its merits deserve. One or more of its annual reports have been published through private munificence, while the later ones are still in manuscript. This is much to be regretted, for the papers read and the discussions carried on are of too valuable a nature to be lost to the absent members, or the general public.

It seems to us that farmers, as a class, are far less ready than men of most other callings, to contribute the funds necessary for carrying on and supporting organizations designed to protect and further their interests. If the five dollars paid for a life membership should be invested at six per cent interest, in a fund, instead of being used for meeting current expenses, the annual tax upon each member would be only thirty cents, a sum which it will be seen at once is entirely inadequate to meet the expense of the meetings, and the cost of printing the annual report. If every member should pay an annual fee of one or two dollars, the case would be very different, especially if the latter sum were agreed upon. Now there is not the shadow of a doubt in our mind that the value of the work done by the Vermont Dairymen's Association since the year 1869, has been worth to the farmers in the State many times the amount it would have cost had each member paid an annual fee of two, or even five dollars. To look at the papers which have been laid before this organization during the past twelve years, coming from the deepest and most interested students and investigators, as well as the sound and highly intelligent practical dairymen of Vermont and other States, papers upon every subject related to dairying and to the dairymen's home, their value is beyond estimation. And the results have not stopped at the farms of its members, but have reached to a greater or less extent directly to the door of every homestead where a single cow has been kept. Nor has the influence of the association stopped here, but it has indirectly brought blessings to every family table in in the State, while it has lightened the burden of every taxpayer in town or city; for every farm that is improved, and every additional tub of butter or box of cheese that is produced through improved methods, is a public benefit.

With all these facts in view, we do not hesitate to entertain the opinion that it would be for the interest of the State to foster such an organization as the Dairymen's Association of Vermont, so long as it continues to do the kind of valuable work which it has done in the past. We feel a peculiar responsibility in this matter when we remember that, owing to reports of the Vermont Dairymen's Association, that have been published in these columns, together with favorable notices of the character of the organization, readers of this journal, not only in Vermont but in other parts of New England, have been induced to become life members of the Association, that they might receive the full reports as published from year to year. We know, too, that the distribution of reports, both new and old, has ever been held out as an inducement to farmers to become life members, and, although we have heard very little grumbling or complaint, yet it is a humiliating fact that the reports for the past few years have not been put in the hands of the printer, and that there is no immediate prospect, so far as we are aware, that they will be.

There is no New England State with whose people we have entertained a warmer sympathy, nor any public association in which we have felt more at home than in the Vermont Dairymen's Association. Within its halls our first public work, as a teacher, was begun, and to it we have given the best efforts in our power, and yet to us the relation seems far less that of a teacher than a pupil, and we are inclined to believe that this feeling is common to all who have aided the meetings by lectures or papers. The Association has been the means of bringing together many leading investigators and public teachers, who otherwise would rarely or never have met, and at these meetings have many new ideas taken root in fertile soil. The good has not all been done during lecture hours, but the discussions, many of them of the highest interest, have been carried on at the dinner table, in the hotel office, on the street, and in the lodging rooms long hours after the farmers for whose interest the Association works, had been lost in slumber.

Can an organization with such a record and such a possible future, be allowed to decline in strength as it increases in years? We do not believe it. It must go on in the future as in the past, gaining more and warmer friends, and increased strength. We have devoted so large a space to a general view of the Association that we must leave, for future numbers, the report of papers read.

SALT FOR FRUIT TREES.

A subscriber writes to ask if it would be desirable to mix salt with ashes to put around fruit trees, to which we must reply no, unless the quantity is very small; nor are we at all confident that even a small quantity is desirable. We do not think there are many soils which would respond very remarkably to applications of common salt, except in such quantities as would kill the trees. We have known trees destroyed by having salt or brine come to their roots, in several instances.

Dr. Fisher of Fitchburg, has an ice house, a part of which is used for a fruit room, and salt is added to the ice to produce a lower degree of cold. The salt that dissolves and soaks into the ground near the ice house, has killed every living thing within a circle of considerable area. Large timber trees were standing there as dead as drift wood, at the time of our last visit to his grounds. The proprietor had made some experiments previously, we believe, in the use of salt in small quantities in his orchard, but without any appreciable benefit.

The farming community has had many periodic fevers and excitements concerning the use of salt in agriculture, and great claims have been made for it, but farmers have not usually found that it is of enough general benefit to make its use desirable, even when purchased at a low price. There will probably be little risk in making a trial of it in small quantities, say five bushels per acre, and cases are on record where much larger amounts have been applied with apparent good results.

CELERY CULTURE.

Celery is the most delicious, as well as the most troublesome of all the vegetable products of the garden. It demands the very best of land, the best of skill, and more labor than any other crop. It is idle to attempt growing celery upon land that is not naturally strong and able to withstand drought; the land should have been tilled with some hoed crops for at least two years previously, and if, in these years, it has been very heavily manured, and kept free from weeds, it will be in pretty good order. Celery requires heavy manuring to do well, and it is a good plan to plough in coarse manure in the fall as a preparation for the crop; but if the manure must be applied in spring, it should be worked very fine and mixed thoroughly with the soil in the rows where the celery is to be grown. Land that will yield a crop of 600 bushels per acre or more, of onions, will also yield a good crop of celery, and it is customary to raise both crops upon the same land, for the celery occupies only one-seventh of the land in the spring and summer, but after the onion harvest, it requires the whole of the land to bank it up, as will be described presently. It is sometimes grown also as a second crop, after early cabbage, lettuce, potatoes or greens.

The celery seed is sown in the onion field by the best gardeners. The land is made ready as early as possible in April, and every sixth or seventh row is sown with celery at the same time as the onion seed is sown. As celery seed is very small, and as the land at this season of the year is likely to work rather lumpy, it takes a good deal of preparation to make the land fine enough to insure the germination of the celery seed. One of the best ways is to throw the land into high ridges with the plough in autumn, when ploughing in the manure; this helps it to dry off rapidly in spring. If this can not be done, several workings with plough and roller will usually answer. The celery seed is slow to germinate, and if the land is infested with chickweed, it will require some practice and care to distinguish the plants, when they first come up. In fact, weeds of all sorts grow so very much faster than celery, that many gardeners prefer to start their celery under a hot-bed about April 1. For this purpose very little heat is required, but care must be taken to keep the bed moist, and the best way to do this is to spread over it a piece of old bagging, (burlap) which must be removed as soon as the seed begins to sprout. The plants can be taken up from this bed and set out in the field in May, when the soil is moist, after a rain. If it is required to clear up a piece of lettuce or greens or other early crop in June, and then plant celery, the plants will need to be pricked out from the seed bed in May, into a plant bed at about three inches apart, where they can stand till June, or even July, before transplanting to the field. If the plants begin to get crowded in the bed, the tops can be sheared off to check them till the ground is ready to plant. It is to be observed, however, that the more celery is transplanted, the more likely it is to go to seed, instead of growing a good stool. It is moreover a very troublesome plant to handle, wilting easily, and requiring watering for some days after planting, if the weather is hot.

Celery is planted in rows seven or eight feet apart, and one foot between the plants in the row. The old plan of setting the plants in trenches is not practiced now; the plants are set on level land and need frequent hoeing and hand weeding until the final banking up, which is done about two or three weeks before it is wanted for use or market. Thus, if wanted for use in September, the weather being warm, the celery will blanch in ten days after the last banking. In October it will take two or three weeks, as the weather is cooler. The banking is done thus: The space between the rows is made mellow by repeated ploughing and cultivating, the last ploughing throwing the earth toward the celery, but not running too near the roots, lest they be disturbed, and the leaves covered. Three men then bank up, two of them with shovels, the other standing astride the row and gathering the leaves with both hands, while the shovellers one at each side, throw up the earth. The first shovelling will bring the earth about half way up the stalks; it is patted down level on top of the bank, so as to receive a second banking, after having grown a few days; at the last banking only two men with shovels are required, but the bank must be thrown quite up to the tops of the leaves; it will settle down a little, and the celery will push up a little; after ten days of warm weather or fifteen of cooler, examine the celery, and if blanched enough to sell, dispose of it at once, for in warm weather it will soon decay after it is once ripe.

To take celery from the ridges, plough them down with the one-horse plough, and then dig with spade. The cleaning and washing for market is a tedious job; the roots must be trimmed with a knife, and all green stems broken off, and the spaces between the sprouts neatly whittled with a sharp pointed knife; it must then be carefully washed with a small hand broom in a tub of water. Care must be taken not to expose the blanched stems to frost, for although before blanching celery is quite hardy, and will endure considerable frost without harm, the blanched growth is too tender to endure frost without injury. Celery, from beginning to end, is a laborious crop. Still, when grown in connection with onions, it is fairly profitable, as about 5000 to 6000 roots are grown per acre, which, if good, sometimes return $300 to $500. The use of celery is constantly increasing, and it now sells for $1.50 per doz., so that, if every head in a field would count in sale, it would yield $700 per acre; the most skilful gardeners, however, have to nail together more or less of it to give it the required size for market, and the price now is unusually high; the average for several years past has not been over $1.00 per doz. In skilful hands, celery is a reasonably sure crop, not being attacked by insects, except the green worm, which is not very troublesome. W. D. PHILBRICK.

GARDEN NOTES FOR FEBRUARY.

This is the time for starting hot beds and cold frames into active service. The weather is still cold and windy, but in clear weather the sun has a good deal of power under the glass, and the dandelion and parsley in the cold frames will make considerable growth. About the middle of the month is the time to get ready a hot bed for starting the seeds of tomatoes, cabbage and lettuce for setting out in the field; also a little lettuce for heading under glass to come just before the field crops.

There is no need of more than twelve inches deep of good hot manure to start the above named seeds. Too much heat is very troublesome and makes constant watering and airing necessary. The bed, however, should be well banked around with strawy manure as high as the glass, to prevent the frost from working in at the sides in cold, windy weather. In bright weather the sashes on the hot beds will need raising a little for three or four hours every day, to give air; the cold frames, however, will not need airing much if at all till March, and careful attention must be given to covering up at night with mats and shutters.

It should constantly be borne in mind that the different kinds of seeds need different treatment, according to the hardy or tender nature of the plants. Thus, cabbage, lettuce and radishes, are hardy and require only a mild heat to start them, say from 40° to 60°, such a heat as is to be found in an old bed or in a new one with only about eight inches of manure, covered with six inches of loam. Tomato, pepper, egg plant and cucumber seed being tropical, need a heat of 70° to 80° to bring them up; this is easily obtained by twelve inches of hot manure, covered with four inches of loam. These tropical plants will require cautious airing in sharp, windy weather, as they easily suffer from cold.

The plants from seed sown thus early will need to be pricked out in another bed about a month later, say by the middle of March. It is usual to set about 200 plants to a sash 3x6 feet, or at about 3½ inches apart. The cabbage and lettuce plants will go directly to the field from such a bed about April 20, when they will completely fill the bed, and the land will be dry enough and the weather warm enough to admit of planting them. The tender plants of the tomato, egg plant, pepper and cucumber will need to have another transplanting under glass, since they will not bear transplanting to the field much before June 1. If one does not care to have his cabbages and tomatoes very early, and has not room in his beds, or time to attend to the transplanting of the plants under glass, it will not be needful to start the seeds before the middle of March.

The seeds of many annual flowers, started in the same manner, will give flowers a full month or more earlier than by sowing the seeds out of doors, and the trouble of weeding the garden will be less, for the plants will soon grow so as to shade the ground.

A few words as to the sowing of seeds will be useful to those who are not familiar with the process. The air of a hot bed is very dry when the glass is aired much, and the loam soon gets mellow enough to work well, even if quite wet or frosty when the bed is first made; if the loam is heavy in its nature, it will be very well to work some sand into it, in order to give the roots a mellow bed to develop their fibers. It should be chopped fine with a hoe, raked smooth, and then gently patted with the back of a shovel to level the surface. The seed is then sprinkled evenly over the surface, and a little sifted loam sprinkled over it, so as to cover it about an eighth of an inch deep; the surface is again lightly patted, and usually nothing more will be needed until the seeds come up, except to attend to covering at night and airing by day. Lettuce and cabbage seed come up in three or four days under favorable circumstances; tomatoes take rather longer, about six days, but the plants need to grow for a fortnight or more after they come up before they are pricked out; the proper time for this is when they have three or four leaves; if left much longer until they begin to crowd each other, they are very inferior. As to the varieties of seed: lettuce, for heading under glass, the white seeded tennis ball; for heading in the field, the black seeded tennis ball; Cabbage, early Henderson; Tomato, Boston market for earliest, Paragon for best late kind; Cucumber, white Spine; Egg Plant, Pekin. These kinds will give the best satisfaction where only a few sorts are wanted. If any one cares for a variety of inferior sorts, he can easily satisfy his ambition from any seedsman's catalogue.

The working of hot beds is pleasant work for those who take an interest in gardening; there is a fascination in seeing things grow when all around is bound with snow and ice; there is also an impatient craving in every one's nature to hasten the tardy progress of our backward springs. The very birds will take shelter under the hot bed fence on windy days and cheer us with their joyous songs, the forerunners of the balmy breezes we may soon expect. Even in midwinter the chickadee and red headed sparrow frequent my beds to pick up the stray grains of rye from the mats. But let no one expect to succeed in working hot beds who can not give them daily, almost hourly, attention. A few hours' neglect in airing or covering the beds will destroy the whole, and leave nothing but a mass of wilted or frozen rubbish.

W. D. PHILBRICK.

—Rabbits, which were introduced from England into Australia a few years ago, have multiplied to an immense degree, and are causing serious trouble to the farmers, who are now waging against them, a war of extermination. The meat preserving companies have recently taken to canning them for shipment. One company near Melbourne had on an average 7000 of these little rodents brought in every night for the first four nights of the past season, which was so far beyond the capacity of their works, that they were obliged to limit the number to 2700 daily. The number cooked and canned by this one establishment amounted to 675,000 for the season.

Correspondence.

For the New England Farmer.

HORSE RAISING IN NEW ENGLAND.

Why may not New England farmers depend upon their own resources for a portion of their agricultural horses? If they can not compete with the West in raising for market, many of them can raise enough for their own use, and produce, at a moderate cost, better horses than those they now buy. The term "Western horse" has, in New England, become almost synonymous with flabby carcass, spongy legs, lazy action and weak constitution.

Twenty-five years ago Boston had the name of possessing the finest work horses of any city in the United States: then horses weighing from 1250 to 1400 pounds were sufficient for the severest truck work. They came largely from Canada, Pennsylvania and Ohio, and were models of strength in form, elastic in step, always ready for their rations and a hard day's work; they were of English descent, and possessed all the prominent traits of that noble and world renowned stock. Now the thing is quite changed, the prairies have been settled, supplying cheap grain and rich pastures, making the business of raising cattle and horses almost the necessary occupation of the farmers, as they are a class of product that will take themselves to market. In choosing horses to breed from, or rather to cross upon the interior native stock, the qualities which had made the old Boston truck horse a model of his kind were too frequently disregarded, and, where work horses were to be produced, mere bulk was considered as the principal *desideratum*.

The result has been that too many of the Western horses, when brought to New England, and put to work under our different conditions of climate, care and feeding, have either broken down at once, or have had to be acclimated, and virtually made over, before they were worth their cost. Indeed many horse dealers in this section will hardly touch them, prefering to go to Canada and buy, and then pay 20 per cent duty; others who happen to get an extra good one among a Western lot, claim it to be Canadian, and ask 25 per cent more for him on that account. This may be an injustice to the West or to some breeders there, for we *do* know that many really excellent horses do come from the West, but when we see those large, ill shaped frames, long lank bodies, drooped rumps, small, round, soft legs, and sluggish action, we need not ask where they are from, or how bred.

A compact English stallion weighing 1450 to 1500 lbs., crossed on the small active New England mares, would produce most desirable horses weighing 1100 to 1200 lbs., combining strength, activity, and endurance, and reared on our hilly farms, in our healthy climate, would have hardy constitutions and be suited to the various requirements of a farm horse.

The cut, shown in this issue, is the type of horse well suited to work these good results and within the reach of many farmers now dependent entirely on boughten horses. One good mare is sufficient to keep almost any New England farmer supplied with efficient horses and a fine one to sell every year or two. If no one man wishes to take the initiatory step it can be done by a few clubbing together and thus reducing the individual cost and risk.

HORSEMAN.

For the New England Farmer.

FARM TOPICS.

Ploughing in Time of Drought.

The drought of last season extended so far into the fall, and the soil became so dry that many farmers delayed and failed to do their usual fall ploughing. It was thought the work could not be successfully done when the soil was so dry. Having some acres of land that is usually too wet to plough early in the spring, I determined to try the work at once. I was quite sure, from the appearance of the soil, that its condition was such as to promise success, and on starting the plough I was well pleased to see the furrows so nicely and easily turned, and crumbling apart and lying so lightly. After finishing the stubble ground, which was to be manured, sowed and re-seeded to grass in the spring, I began to turn the sward land, and continued the work of ploughing every day for two weeks. The weather was pleasant all the time, and I have never had the work so well done, or so easily, by both man and beast. The soil was so thoroughly disintegrated and laid so loosely that I am sure it will be in fine condition to receive the seed in the spring.

A good crop cannot be raised on a stiff, hard, lumpy soil; and in many instances this is the only condition in which land can be left after ploughing in the spring only. On most Vermont farms, perhaps, fall ploughing is an important condition of success in raising good crops. After a crop has been taken from the land, it needs re-ploughing in the fall, so as to receive the air and light, to be subject to the action of the rain, the cold and the frost, and to receive from all these sources the elements they give of continued fertility. The soil requires this, as well as abundant manuring. These suggestions may not apply strictly, if at all, to light and sandy soils.

Getting out Manure.

The spring work can be greatly facilitated by drawing out the manure in the winter. It is a favorable time now to do this work. Often the land where the manure is to be applied, is so wet in the spring that it cannot be reached at the desired time; now the teams and the loads may pass easily anywhere, without injury to the land.

I notice that some farmers, when drawing manure in the fall or winter, pile it up in large heaps, to be moved again in the spring; this requires unnecessary labor. When manure is drawn in the fall, it is better to spread it directly on the ploughed land, unless the location should be such as to be subject to wash from rains, &c. If left in heaps it will unnecessarily enrich the land beneath, causing the after crops to lodge and waste. When manure is drawn in the winter, it is best to put it in small heaps where it can be spread on the land without re-loading in the spring.

A Supply of Ice.

How much is it? An article in a recent number of the FARMER, copied from an exchange, says: "from 25 to 30 two-horse loads of ice are sufficient to supply a good-sized family," yearly. Two horses will draw 14 to 20 cakes of ice, 18 by 20 inches in size and 14 to 16 inches thick, at a load. Twenty-five such loads, of 20 cakes, will make 500 cakes; 30 loads 600 cakes. For a dairy of 15 to 20 cows, I have, for some years past, put in only 50 cakes, and seldom do farmers here put up more than 100 to 150 cakes. From my own experience and observation, I am convinced that the use of ice water for drinking is commonly needless, and often injurious. Its tendency is to disorganize the digestive functions of the stomach, and, of course, in so far, it arrests and vitiates the action of all the bodily powers. I have experienced, to some extent, these ill effects myself, and a young man near, the last summer, was brought near to death—such was the statement of his physician—from the same cause. The rule is, relative to such cases, that ordinarily no food or drink much above or below the normal temperature of the body should be taken into the stomach. It will be well to remember this at all seasons.

Now for Reading!

This is the season of the year most favorable for reading. Every farmer's family should have at least one good religious paper, the NEW ENGLAND FARMER, and one good newspaper; also a book of history, travel, biography, science, theology, or something relating to the farm, lying near the bible, handy to be taken up at any leisure moment. A farmer and his family ought to be well informed in regard to all subjects of common interest, as well of passing events. Read something that is instructive, rather than so much silly trash. By following a judicious course of reading, from year to year, the mind is strengthened, enlarged and elevated; the judgment is matured; the man becomes wiser, more stable, useful and influential. Is not this better than spending the long winter evenings lounging around the saloon and store, interested only in gossip and blab. I called on a farmer recently who had raised a family of thirteen children, and never had taken a newspaper of any kind; he "never could afford it" and yet he had squirted tobacco juice and drank rum ever since he could remember. Shame on such farmers.

VERMONT.

For the New England Farmer.

WINTER NOTES.

Well, another year of pleasures and sorrows has passed away, and the year 1881 has fairly commenced. It is well to review the past year and see wherein we have made mistakes, and try to correct them and avoid the same in the future. Let us try to farm better than we have in the past, and endeavor to constantly improve, not only our farms, but ourselves as well.

I am glad to greet the NEW ENGLAND FARMER in its old, familiar appearance, and for one I am glad the publishers do not contemplate any radical change in it, for it is good enough as it is, and I wish that just twice as many of the farmers of New England patronized it as there is now. No "free seeds" or other premium is announced, which is as it should be, for the premium business has been overdone. A paper should be so good that no premium is needed to recommend it.

Considerable complaint is heard in this section on account of the short supply of water; streams are low, so that grist mills which depend on water power are obliged to run but a part of the time, and many wells and springs are dry, causing much inconvenience.

We were favored with very good roads nearly all the fall, and have been this winter, so far. There is now about ten inches of snow, which makes fine sleighing, that is being improved by all those who have any teaming to do, and the result will be that all the saw mills will be heavily stocked this winter. Thus far the winter has been quite cold, and cloudy weather has prevailed most of the time; only occasionally a bright day. Our coldest day, so far, was December 30th, when the thermometer marked 15° below zero, in the morning, and did not rise above zero all day.

Apples are beginning to rise in market, so that those who have a surplus on hand are likely to realize more for them; but will it be enough more to compensate for the extra labor of handling and decay? Potatoes also have an upward tendency. Hay sells for $16, and good straw for $10; eggs 32 cents per dozen.

The list of garden and flower seeds should now be made out, from the numerous seed catalogues which are usually supplied gratis by the seedsmen, and do not omit to send your order until next spring, but send it this winter. To those who enjoy a good muskmelon, I will say, order a package of the Surprise, for it is the best variety, according to our way of thinking.

How much more cheerful and homelike it looks to see plants and blossoms in the windows of our farm houses, than to see them empty; and it is very much more common to see them so ornamented than it used to be a few years ago. For a pretty vine, I consider the madeira vine a very desirable one, as it is a rapid grower, and its foliage is nice.

Steuben Co., N. Y., 1881. F. H. D.

Selections.

TO WHAT AGE WILL COWS BREED?

Imp. Young Mary.

In our November number, in answer to the inquiries of a correspondent, we stated that the most remarkable case that we were then able to record was that of the Shorthorn cow Cherry, by Waterloo (2816), bred by Mr. John Stephenson, of Wolviston, Eng. This cow was calved Dec. 20, 1821, dropped her first calf Jan. 16, 1825, and continued to breed regularly every year up to February, 1840, when she dropped her 16th calf, being then in her 19th year. Another very remarkable case was that of Red Rose, by Windsor (698). This cow was calved in 1812, and produced 16 calves; the last birth being twin heifers, dropped when she was 16 years old.

Since writing the foregoing, we find in the *North British Agriculturist* a statement by a correspondent, that a certain Hereford cow had "produced 31 calves, and continued to breed until she was 33 years old;" and another correspondent states that "the Keillor *Old Grannie* lived still longer," and that "Mr. R. Colling's Young Strawberry, and Mr. Lakin's cow of the same name, bred till 27 years old." The same correspondent adds that "Mr. Hutchinson mentions one which, besides bulls, bred 19 cow calves;" and that "there is (or was recently) a pedigree Shorthorn cow in the fine herd at Kimbolton considerably over 20, and breeding regularly."

These are very remarkable cases, and we will take the liberty of calling upon our contemporary for a more specific statement of the facts in all the above instances, if they can be obtained.

But we have here in our own country a more remarkable case than any of those given by us in our November number. In 1834, the Ohio Company imported the cow that afwards became famous as the founder of the Young Mary tribe of Shorthorns. She was a roan, calved 1832, bred by Mr. J. Clark, and tracing through Jupiter (2170), Saladin (1417), and Meek's bull (2280), to a cow bred by Mr. Holmes of Otterington. This cow was named Young Mary, and with her first cow calf, Pocksbontas by imported Comet Halley (1855), was bought at the Ohio Company's sale, in October, 1836, by Mr. Vanmeter and Capt. Cunningham and taken to Kentucky. She lived to the age of 21 years, and died in giving birth to her 16th calf, which survived her a day or two. Among her most noted produce were Hannah Moore, Judith Clark, and Lilac, all by Goldfinder (2066), and her descendants are today among the most popular as well as the most numerous of all well bred Shorthorns.—*National Live Stock Journal, Chicago.*

—A recent decision on the question of a person's liability in damages by reason of defective fences, is thus told by the *New York Tribune*: "A flock of wayward sheep went half a mile and destroyed 9000 cabbages. The owner of the crop brought suit for damages against his next door neighbor, who kept no stock himself but whose boundary fences were defective. The County Judges refused to hold the defendant, on the ground that a farmer is only responsible for restraining his own animals, if he have any, but that there is no obligation upon him to maintain a line of defence capable of warding off all cattle which may happen to be careering across the country.

SELECTION AND PREPARATION OF FOOD.

Essay read before the Franklin Farmers' Club, Jan 15, 1881, by Miss Ruth Smith.

Mr. President, and Ladies and Gentlemen:—

The Selection and Preparation of Food is the subject before you for discussion this evening, and if you ask, as you well may, why I am the one to open the discussion, I reply that it is in obedience to the expressed wish of your late worthy President, Mr. Cheever.

The human body is composed of the following fourteen elements: Oxygen, hydrogen, carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus, calcium, fluorine, sulphur, chlorine, sodium, iron, potassium, magnesium and silicon. To supply the constant waste in these elements, which must be done daily, or ill results are sure to follow, a loving Father furnishes us, not only, with an almost endless variety of food, with air and with water, but also with brains to devise and hands to execute ways of preparing it, and our part is to accept those good gifts with thankful hearts and learn to use and not abuse them.

Food may be divided into three classes. That class which supplies the lungs with fuel and thus furnishes heat to the system and supplies fat, may be called carbonates, carbon being the principal element; that class which supplies the waste of muscles may be called nitrates, nitrogen being the principal element; and that which supplies the bones, the brains and the nerves, and gives vital power both bodily and mental, may be called phosphates, because phosphorus is the principal element. Of these three classes, four times as much carbonaceous food is required as there is of nitrogenous, and of the phosphates not more than two per cent of the carbonates, and animal and vegetable foods are equally adapted to supply these necessary elements.

In animal food the carbonates are furnished in fat, and the nitrates in albumen, fibrine and caseine. In vegetable food the carbonates are furnished in sugar, starch, and a little fat, and the nitrates in gluten, albumen and caseine. The phosphates, in both animal and vegetable food, are found inseparably connected with the nitrates, none being found in any of the carbonates

lives even as I have taught her and have told to you."

Rather more than a hundred years ago, the accomplished Lady Mary Worthley Montague, who moved in the fashionable as well as the literary circles of the day, wrote these words:

"The most minute details of household economy become elegant and refined when they are ennobled by sentiment. To furnish a room is no longer a common-place affair; shared with upholsterers and cabinet-makers, it is decorating the place where I am to meet my friends. To order a dinner is not merely arranging a meal with my cook, it is preparing refreshment for those whom I love. These necessary occupations viewed in this light by a person capable of strong attachments, are so many pleasures, and afford her far more delight than the games and shows which constitute the amusements of the world."

In sharp contrast to the above, is this quotation: "A man's heart and his stomach are said to be interchangeable terms." I would not so far malign the sterner sex as to indorse this sentiment, yet I certainly know of more than one instance where a woman's sole tie to an unloving, selfish, cold husband, has been her power of deftly administering to his chronic dyspepsia. I have seen this despised faculty avert divorce and preserve family unity where all else failed and love had never been. The moral of which is—young ladies learn to cook well.?

This quotation is from "Amanda," in the October number of *Harper's Magazine* for 1880.

Can there be anything sadder than this? Yes, a home where love has been, but where she, whose duty it is, and whose great happiness it should be to care for the health and comfort of the household, is willing to trust both to one who is ignorant of all laws of health and life; who never having seen soda in her own land, after learning that it makes things light, uses it as the nucleus of all her compounds, around which other things are to be stirred. Dyspepsia and discomfort follow, and if love survives it is more owing to the fact that it is indestructible than to the fostering care of the housewife.

I never blamed an acquaintance of mine for first getting cross and then as glorious as "Tam O' Shanter," when his wife ordered the twenty-five pounds of corned beef, two hams and half a dozen tongues, which he had sent home, to be put in the pot boiler and boiled, at a gallop, probably, for two hours. Nor was it surprising that he should declare with considerable emphasis that "A woman has no more right to become a wife before she has learned to keep house in all its departments, than a man has to practice law or medicine without studying his profession."

To the "Philosophy of Eating," by Dr. Albert J. Bellows, I am indebted for my information upon the chemistry of the human system and of food. This work and "How Not to be Sick," are in our public library—they ought to be in every family.

In conclusion, dear friends, I most earnestly hope that the result of the discussion this evening, will so bring the importance of this subject to our minds that fathers and mothers, men and women, we will work together in our homes, neighborhoods and schools, till boys and girls are made to feel the dignity and worth of this part of their education.

New England Farmer.

BOSTON:

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1881.

THE NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Annual meeting of the New England Agricultural Society was held on Tuesday at the office on Milk street, nearly two hundred members from all parts of New England being present. In the absence of President Loring, Governor Head of New Hampshire presided. It appeared by the annual report of the Treasurer that the annual fair at Worcester last September was one of the most successful ever given by the Society. The total receipts were $23,090, and expenses, $19,308 15; profit, $3771 85. One-third of this balance, $1257 28, was paid into the treasury of the New England Society. The balance now in the treasury is $3503 40.

The following letter from President Loring was read:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, Jan. 28, 1881.

My Dear Sir:—I have received your notice of the annual meeting of the New England Agricultural Society to be held on February 1. I cannot let the occasion pass without congratulating the Society on its long-continued success, and the good influence it has exerted on the agriculture of New England. Since the organization of the Society, the industry which it represents and cherishes has been constantly growing in importance and power. The productions, the results of agricultural labor, are entering more and more into the foreign commerce of the United States, and are constantly adding to the wealth and resources of our country. The census of 1880 will, when completed, show an astonishing growth in this great industry. The increase in domestic animals, in the crops of corn, wheat, cotton and all the products of the dairy, the garden and the orchard is almost incalculable. This popular interest in the land and its productions is constantly growing, and at no time in the history of our country has there been manifested so strong a desire to use all means for the development and elevation of the farming industry. I am proud of the part our Society has performed in this work, and I trust it will not relax its efforts in the laudable service in which it is engaged. Truly yours,

GEO. B. LORING.

Hon. D. Needham, Sec'y. Boston.

Some discussion took place upon the manner of awarding the premiums at the exhibition of the Society, in the course of which Mr. Bela J. Stone, of Westboro advocated the employment of paid experts as judges of stock, as a means of avoiding the charges of favoritism, so frequently heard, where cattle-breeders who are made judges at exhibitions have appeared to award premiums on the principle of exchanging courtesies. No action was taken on this point, however. A vote was passed to hold the next annual fair at Worcester in connection with the Worcester County Society. The Society unanimously adopted a series of resolutions, offered by ex-Governor Frederick Smyth of New Hampshire, recommending the separation of the Bureau of Agriculture from the Interior Department, and the selection of the Hon. Geo. B. Loring of Massachusetts as the head of the bureau, and directing that a copy of the resolution be forwarded to President-elect Garfield and the members of Congress.

The following gentlemen were chosen to the Board of Trustees from the different States as follows: Maine—Charles J. Gilman of Brunswick, Samuel Briggs of South Paris, John M. Brown of Portland and Charles McKinney of Munroe. New Hampshire—E. C. Shirley of Goffstown, Greenleaf Clarke of Atkinson, Waterman Smith of Manchester and C. Hiram Hayes of Portsmouth. Vermont—A. E. Perkins of Pomfret, L. S. Drew of Burlington, C. Horace Hubbard of Springfield, and Colonel J. B. Mead of Randolph, and A. S. Finley of Middletown Springs was elected to fill a vacancy caused by the death of E. S. Stowell of Cornwall. Massachusetts—J. A. Harwood of Littleton, W. F. Boyd of Mansfield, W. T. Cook of Foxboro' and George Noyes of Boston. Rhode Island—S. L. Blaisdell of Providence, A. E. Burnside of Bristol, H. E. Smith of Southfield and Jonathan Chase of Lincoln. Connecticut—T. S. Gold of West Cornwall, J. J. Webb of New Haven, James A. Bill of Lyme and Harvey N. Weld of Stamford. At the conclusion of the business meeting the Society partook of the annual dinner at Young's Hotel, ex-Governor Head of New Hampshire presiding. Informal speeches from a number of gentlemen present followed the repast.

THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

The annual session of the State Board of Agriculture was commenced at the State House Tuesday noon, with a full attendance of the members, Governor Long presiding. The greater part of the afternoon was taken up in hearing the reports of delegates to the various society fairs during the past year. The committee on the Agricultural College submitted its report. The committee rehearses the founding of the college, and states that it carefully examined its equipment and working. In regard to the farm it says: There were none of those indications of advanced or progressive agriculture to be seen which we or the farmers of Massachusetts have a right to expect, or what should be the model of the state. This result, however, it attributes to the policy that obliges the products of the farm to be sold instead of being consumed upon the farm. The orchards and vineyards were also found to be in a very unsatisfactory condition, although the nurseries were flourishing finely, and their success under Prof. Maynard's management is highly spoken of. Some of the college buildings are in great need of repair. The committee recommends this course for the college: To incur no debts; to teach strictly agricultural branches, and that only so much land shall be cultivated as can be cared for in the best manner. The proposed revision of the statute concerning the bounties paid to the county agricultural societies was discussed at considerable length. It appeared that, in the opinion of the Attorney General, the State is at present compelled to pay bounty even to practically worthless and dead societies. A committee was appointed to confer with the Legislative Committee on Agriculture, looking to an amendment of the law in this respect.

THE EXPORT OF DAIRY PRODUCTS.

A special meeting of the Boston Produce Exchange was held on Saturday last to consider the subject of making Boston a leading port for the foreign trade in dairy products. The attendance of members was quite large, and a great deal of interest in the project was manifested, as well as a determination to make it successful, if hard work and an intelligent co-operation of all parties interested could do anything to secure such a result. Addresses were made by Mr. Lansing Millis, president of the National Despatch line, and by Mr. W. H. Lincoln, agent for the Leyland line of ocean steamships, engaging to provide every possible facility in the way of transportation, and to increase them from time to time as the exigencies of the trade may require. Several of the leading members of the Exchange, and the largest dealers in dairy produce in this city participated in the discussion which followed. The general feeling appeared to be that Boston has many advantages to offer to the trade, and among them these: It is one day's sail nearer Europe than New York, where the chief shipments of butter and cheese are now made; it is nearer to the great butter and cheese producing districts of Vermont and northern New York, and can command equal despatch, and, judging by the experience of the past year, better freighting rates from the shipping points of the trade in all the Western States; the dealers here are enabled, by the extension of railroad tracks to the wharves where ocean steamers load, to deliver freight from the car into the hold of the ship, while in New York the delay and expense incident to another handling and the drayage of the goods have to be taken into the account. The financial standing of the firms engaged in the trade here, is also as good, to say the least, as in any other city in the United States.

With regard to the shipment of cheese, it was remarked, that cheese in being shipped across the ocean, needed no special refrigerating process, and was indeed ripened and improved by the voyage in the ordinary temperature of the ship's hold, and reaches the other side in a more desirable marketable condition. At the same time, it cannot be transported over long distances by railroad in warm weather unless by the use of refrigerators. In changing cheese so brought, from the temperature of the car to that of the vessel, its flavor is certainly not improved, and is very likely to be greatly damaged.

In this matter Boston has a great advantage, as, from the nearness of the Vermont and northern New York factories, which are in quicker communication with this port than with New York, their product can be brought hither by rail without refrigerating.

For the complete success of this movement some changes in the methods of manufacture, in Vermont especially, will have to be brought about. The present product is of the standard "Boston cheese," which differs from the cheese in demand abroad in being more porous. For exportation a harder and more "full-meated" cheese will be required. The milk product of Vermont is equal in quality to that of any other part of the country, and as good cheese according to English standards can be produced there, and as it is quite as much for the interest of the Vermonters as for the shippers, it is apprehended that no great difficulty will be found in making this change in the process of manufacture. The grand point aimed at is to make it an object for European buyers and shippers to transact their business in Boston. As the business is now done, Boston men who are operating butter and cheese factories in northern New York, although they can send their products to this city quicker and cheaper than to New York, are still obliged to send them to the latter port, to be sold on commission, simply because the buyers for the foreign market visit or operate in New York and few or no buyers of this class come to Boston. To provide for the accumulation of goods here to await buyers or the arrival of steamships there are already two cold-storage buildings and another is about to be built.

After a full discussion of the subject the meeting authorized the president of the Exchange to appoint a committee to consider the subject, and to report to a future special meeting, the result of their inquiries, with recommendations for action.

THE MAINE STATE COLLEGE.

The report of the State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts at Orono, shows that during the past year there have been thirty-one accessions to the college, and that there are now 104 students at the institution. The number of graduates is 134, and 186 others have been connected with the college for periods varying from one term to three and one-half years, making a total of 320 individuals who have received more or less instruction there. Of these 320, 27 per cent are engaged in agricultural pursuits and 27 per cent. in the mechanic arts; only 11 per cent are in the professions, 89 per cent being engaged in non-professional pursuits, a fact which seems to show that the training given at the college is largely in the direction of practical industrial usefulness. The college has been prudently and economically managed, and is out of debt. The value of the farm, buildings, stock, apparatus, &c., which the State holds at this institution is about $145,000, and the permanent fund now amounts to $130,300 68. The college is, however, restricted in its usefulness by the insufficiency of its annual income, and an effort is being made to raise an additional fund of $100,000, towards which ex-Governor Coburn and the Hon. Lewis Barker have agreed to contribute $5000 each. The Trustees urge an appropriation by the Legislature of $2300 for a building for mechanical engineering and its equipment, which is greatly needed. They estimate the needs of the institution at $6800 for the current year, and $5500 for the year 1882, not an extravagant sum, if the usefulness of the college is to remain unimpaired.

THE CALIFORNIA WHEAT CROP.

The wheat growers of California are seriously embarrassed by the magnitude of their last season's crop, of which a very large proportion now remains unsold upon their hands. At present prices it can not be shipped to the Atlantic States or to Europe, and return enough over the cost of transportation to enable the farmers to discharge the loans which they have raised on it from the banks. A convention of farmers is about to be held, with a view of adopting some plan for relief. Negotiations are pending with the Central and Southern Pacific Railroads for transportation of the wheat now in the State to tidewater on the Atlantic, but no contracts are yet signed. It is claimed by the farmers that the correct course for them to pursue, in case they cannot ship their grain overland, is to hold it until next July, the beginning of the crop year, when it is confidently expected it can be disposed of at a profit. The farmers state that they are willing to sell their wheat at a figure which will allow ships 65 shillings freight to Liverpool but no more. On the other hand, the ship-owners contend that they have for years carried wheat at unremunerative rates, and can not afford to make any lower figures now, especially as freights in all parts of the world are good. The farmers cannot sell grain at the present prices without loss and the banks cannot foreclose their loans without creating a panic. There are no disengaged ships in port. Those under charter are either loaded or the necessary amount of wheat to load them is secured, and there is no demand of consequence for grain.

TETTER, Itching Piles, all skin diseases cured by Swayne's Ointment. Physicians use it.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

From G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, we have received through A. Williams & Co.,

HOLLAND AND ITS PEOPLE: by Edmondo De Amicis; translated from the Italian by Caroline Tilton.

This is an entertaining series of sketches of travel and personal experiences in Holland, as seen by a modern traveller of fair education and considerable experience, who makes it a point to see all there is to be seen, either of the country, the people, pictures, architecture, or what not, and to tell about it in a very frank manner, without attempting to give his reader any statistics or figures, but aiming simply to amuse and entertain.

A DOCTOR'S SUGGESTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY: by Daniel R. St. John Roosa, M. D.

This volume is not one of the "every man his own doctor" class of books, whose purpose is to impart that "little knowledge" which in medical matters more than in any other, is so often "a dangerous thing," but it consists of some eight papers which have been written apparently for special occasions, dealing principally with the relations of the medical profession to the community, and showing in the writer that broad and catholic spirit, and that pride in his profession, which is almost the distinguishing sign of the good physician.

ALL ROUND THE YEAR: VERSES FROM SKY FARM: by Dora and Elaine Goodale.

Many of the poems comprised in this dainty little volume have been published before in one or another of the magazines, whence they have found their way through the press to every corner of the country, and are already familiar to every reader who can appreciate the freshness and grace of the work of these wonderful children. Some of the poems we do not remember to have seen before but all, almost without exception, are marked by the same keen poetic insight, and natural facility of versification, with the same pure, sweet tone, that has so endeared the young authors to all lovers of true poetry.

THE MAGAZINES.

Good Company, Number Seventeen, contains an installment of Rose and the Doctor, a serial by Ellen W. Olney, which will be found of marked interest. There is the usual full complement of fiction complete in the number. Two of the sketches are about the experience of an investor in Arizona mines, and Achmet, an Egyptian lady's maid. Mr. John Burroughs has a collection of brief papers on several topics. The more substantial material includes the substance of a paper on the Higher Education of Women which was read at Smith College by President D. C. Gilman of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore; an article on Ireland and Irishmen by Rev. Dr. G. H. Hepworth, one of the committee for the distribution of the *New York Herald* relief fund in Ireland; a graphic summary of the career of the African explorer, Henry M. Stanley; and a paper showing up some of the abuses connected with patents and the United States patent right laws. Of special timeliness are Winter by E. S. Gilbert and an article on George Eliot.

CONGRESS.

The proceedings of Congress during the past week, have not been, in either branch, of special interest. A great deal of time has been spent over the joint resolution with regard to counting the electoral votes for President and Vice-President, resulting at length in leaving the matter practically unchanged from the custom hitherto followed. The House has settled the Yeates-Martin contested election case, from the first North Carolina district, unseating Mr. Martin by a vote of 115 to 103. The contested election cases from the eighth and ninth Iowa districts were disposed of by the adoption of a resolution permitting the sitting members to retain their seats. Fifty thousand copies of the Agricultural Commissioner's report on the cattle disease were ordered to be printed.

Indian matters have largely occupied the attention of the Senate. The Indian land in severalty bill was discussed at considerable length, but no decisive action was taken. A petition, signed by 32,000 persons residing in different States, was presented praying that Congress observe the treaties heretofore made with the Indians, and that justice be accorded them in the future. Mr. Dawes introduced a bill to carry into effect the recommendations of the Ponca Indians' commission to establish the rights of these Indians to the lands belonging to them, and in a speech upon the question, criticized with great severity the Indian policy of the Government, especially in the case of the Poncas. Mr. Beck of Kentucky introduced a resolution permitting American citizens to purchase ships and engage in the foreign carrying trade, and for the registration of such as American ships when commanded and officered by American citizens. Messrs. Blaine and Morrill made speeches in opposition, and Mr. Blaine introduced a substitute bill granting subsidies to American-built, owned, officered and manned vessels at the rate of $30, $45 and $60 per nautical mile per annum for carrying the United States mails. Senator Morrill of Vermont presented to the United States, the statue of the late Senator Collamer for the National Hall of Statuary. A bill has been introduced appropriating $100,000, to be applied, under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy, to the immediate preparation, equipment and supply of a vessel of war to be used in a search for the steamer Jeannette of the Arctic exploring expedition.

THE GENERAL COURT.

Some of the friends of Judge Day of the Barnstable county Probate Court, for whose removal from office several petitions have been received, have presented in the House a remonstrance against such action. The speaker has appointed a committee of nine to investigate the case of Judge Day and report whether or not the alleged offences require the House to proceed as a court of impeachment. This committee is the judiciary committee of the House. Petitions have been presented for a change in the law about co-operative saving fund and loan associations. The trustee process was the subject of several amendatory orders, or petitions; and there were remonstrances against biennial elections, petitions for woman suffrage, and petitions that the Boston school committee be limited to the appropriations of the city government, and other standard and familiar matters. Wednesday was the last day for the introduction of new business in the House.

In the Senate a bill was introduced from the judiciary committee proposing to greatly simplify the process of transferring property in real estate, by the adoption of intelligible and sensible forms for deeds, mortgages, etc. The bill to protect the rights of citizens of this Commonwealth holding claims against other States was rejected. The judiciary committee reported inexpedient to amend the General Statutes, so that any court of record shall have jurisdiction of applications for naturalization.

THE EXPORTS.—The chief of the bureau of statistics, in his sixth monthly statement for the current fiscal year shows that the excess of exports of merchandise in specie value was as follows: Month ending December 31, 1880, $51,483,844; month ending December 31, 1879, $21,277,042; 12 months ending January 31, 1880, $192,816,407; 12 months ending December 31, 1879, $251,557,109. The excess of imports of gold and silver coin and bullion was as follows: Month ending December 31, 1880, $15,764,154; month ending December 31, 1879, $5,877,322; 12 months ending December 31, 1880, $69,129,822; 12 months ending December 31, 1879, $67,375,960.

A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS.—The history of the Bowker Fertilizer Company of this city is a good example of what may be done by energy and tact, if one has a good thing to start with. The business was commenced in 1875 in a small way, only fifty tons of fertilizer being sold in that year. Three years later the Stockbridge manures were introduced, and sold to the extent of about one thousand tons. In 1878 the business had increased so rapidly that in connection with the Abattoir Association a new and extensive factory was erected at Brighton, thoroughly equipped with all the latest improvements, and capable of turning out one hundred tons of mixed fertilizer a day. Even these facilities, however, were rapidly outgrown, as the quality of the fertilizers furnished became more widely known and appreciated, and in July last the capital stock of the company was increased to $400,000, and new and extensive works were erected at New York, nearly three times as large as that at Brighton, with three engines, one of them of two hundred horse-power, and other machinery to correspond. It has also built large acid works for the manufacture of sulphuric acid, which enters into the composition of all well made fertilizers. The two factories together now cover ten acres of land, and include every appliance necessary for the manufacture, on the most extensive scale, of the most complete and reliable commercial fertilizers. In the year 1880 the company manufactured and sold the enormous quantity of 15,000 tons of their manures, distributing them in all parts of the country. It is hardly necessary to say that this immense increase in sales could not have been brought about, unless the article sold was a good and reliable article, and reasonable in price; indeed the extent of the business is the best possible guarantee of the excellence and cheapness of these fertilizers.

THE MOSELEY CABINET CREAMERY has been so long before the public and has been so often commended in these columns that it is unnecessary for us to say anything in its praise at this time. We only desire to say now, that this excellent apparatus, together with the Stoddard churn, manufactured by the same company, can be found in this city at the warehouse of Whittemore Bros, Nos. 128 and 130 South Market St.

TWO ORGANS.—Regulate first the stomach, second the liver; especially the first, so as to perform their functions perfectly and you will remove at least nineteen-twentieths of all the ills that mankind is heir to, in this or any other climate. Hop Bitters is the only thing that will give perfectly healthy natural action to these two organs.—*Maine Farmer.*

VITALIZING, nourishing and stimulating, without intoxicating, are Malt Bitters.

THE WALTHAM FARMERS' CLUB, one of the oldest as well as one of the best of the similar organizations in the State, celebrated its twenty-fourth anniversary on Tuesday evening, with a supper and social party at the new Music Hall in that town. Over 500 ladies and gentlemen attended, and the occasion was one of unusual enjoyment to all who participated. Among the invited guests were His Excellency Gov. Long, Gen. N. P. Banks, the Hon. Robert R. Bishop, President of the Senate, Speaker Chas. J. Noyes of the House of Representatives, and others. Gov. Long made an eloquent and well considered address in response to the toast, "The Commonwealth of Massachusetts." Other toasts and speeches followed, the speakers being the Hon. R. R. Bishop, the Hon. Chas. J. Noyes, Gen. N. P. Banks, Gen. Chamberlain, the Rev. Thomas Hill, and Rev. Benton Smith, J. Q. A. Brackett, and others. The evening closed with dancing.

THE MILK PRODUCERS.—The committee chosen at the last annual meeting of the New England Milk Producers' Association to consider a plan presented to the Worcester West Association by Mr. W. H. Bowker of Boston, viz: "How pure milk may be supplied to Boston at reasonable prices to consumer and fair returns to producer," and other plans having the same end in view, has reported in favor of Mr. Bowker's plan, which is that a company be formed, with a capital of $200,000, to begin and carry on the work of supplying milk to the people of Boston directly without the intervention of contractors and milkmen. The idea is to establish a creamery in the city, by the milk from the producers, and distribute it by means of employes of the company in the same manner that ice is distributed.

A GREAT OCEAN CABLE SCHEME.—A London dispatch says a prospectus has been issued in Paris of the Central American Submarine Telegraph Company, the object of which is to connect all of Central America with the United States and Europe by cable—with tributary land lines—to be laid from Balize to Cuba, Spain having granted a concession therefor. England will guaranty for a term of twenty years the payment of the sum of £1000 annually as the proceeds of Government dispatches to and from British Honduras, the capital of the company is to be £120,000.

WHY use a gritty, muddy, disagreeable article when Hood's Sarsaparilla, or pure, clear, so delightful, can be obtained. 100 doses $1.00.

Miscellaneous Items.

☞ The ground is frozen to the depth of four feet in some parts of New York.

☞ W. Trow & Co.'s large flour mill at Madison, Ind., was burned on Sunday; loss $125,000.

☞ Many German agriculturists are earnestly complaining against the importation into Germany of American productions.

☞ The San Francisco *Post* says the wheat raised on some of the great farms in California is rapidly deteriorating in quality.

☞ The fancy cotton mills of E. Fisher & Son, at Fisherville, Grafton, were burned last Thursday evening. Loss, $125,000.

☞ The number of immigrants arriving at our ports during the last half of 1880 was 276,813 as compared with 145,112 for the corresponding period of 1879.

☞ A Scotch land company has bought 150,000 acres of Missouri land, which is to be divided among a colony of Scotch farmers that is to be brought over.

☞ A singular accident happened to a cow at Painesville, Ohio, on Thursday. Her feet slipped apart on the ice and split her body in a horrible manner.

☞ A farmer named Peter McCallum, residing in the township of Aldboro, Ont., claims to have discovered the long lost Charlie Ross among the Tuscarora Indians.

☞ A boy twelve years old, son of Lewis Gould of Hartland, Me., was instantly killed Saturday by the accidental discharge of a gun which he was taking from the box.

☞ Mining is being prosecuted on Surry Mountain, in New Hampshire, where a shaft has been sunk about 100 feet, and deposits of lead, silver and gold ore have been found in paying quantities.

☞ George Bryant, aged 54, a farmer living near Holyoke, lost the road while driving home Saturday night and drove into a pasture, where he was overturned and trampled to death by his horse.

☞ It is reported that Sitting Bull has formally surrendered himself to the Canadian Government, and asked to be sent to Fort Buford, to be turned over to the military authorities there.

☞ On Sunday last a hurricane swept over Puyallabe valley, Washington county, Oregon. The Union Pacific Railroad is obstructed by windfalls. Buildings have been unroofed and in some instances destroyed.

☞ Seven prisoners escaped from the Chittenden County jail at Burlington, Vt., on Friday of last week, by digging a hole through the wall. On Saturday evening four of them were arrested near St. Albans, and returned to their old quarters.

☞ It is expected that the supply of peaches in the Western and Southern markets next season will be very scant. Not many peach buds are likely to escape the frost at some points, and in some localities it is feared the trees are killed as well as the buds.

☞ It is stated that the various differences of the parties interested in the Central Vermont Railway freight line, are in a fair way of adjustment, through a committee of conference, which has been agreed to by all, and the meeting will be held at an early day.

☞ Business is reported to be unusually light on most of the Western roads for this season of the year. Railroad officials say that the amount of grain awaiting shipment in the West has been greatly exaggerated, and that the prospects for the next few months are not very flattering for many lines.

☞ The question of divorces is interesting other States as well as Massachusetts. A Hartford paper comments upon the unusual number of cases pending in the Superior Court for that county. Of the forty-five new suits for divorce, and out of the aggregate of court cases on the docket about seventy, or nearly one-third of the whole number, are cases of the same character.

☞ The cultivation of pampas grass, now so much used for decorative purposes, has become quite a profitable industry in Southern California. Three-quarters of an acre planted to pampas grass yielded, at two and a half cents per head, $500. Another grower sold all he could raise at seven at seven and a half cents per head. Last year 10,000 heads or plumes of this grass were sold from that region.

☞ The American Consul at La Rochelle, France, states that the brandy trade of Cognac is declining, for the price of wine is so high, owing to the ravages of phylloxera, that it does not pay to distil the juice of the grape into brandy. Pure French Cognac brandy, free from all adulteration, will be very high in future, and if any is offered in the American market at a low price it will be proof positive that it is of inferior quality.

☞ The Hon. George Nichols, Secretary of the State of Vermont, announces that he has just discovered that owing to careless legislation last session, the law providing for the salary and expenses of the Superintendent of Education was abolished. Superintendent Dartt finds himself, now that he has accepted the office, with prospects of no funds, and unless somebody guarantees the salary, it is probable the State will be without this officer for the next two years, as there is no session of the Legislature next year.

☞ Mr. Thompson, United States Consul at St. Thomas, thinks that the abolition of slavery in that island, has been by no means an unmixed benefit. When slavery was finally abolished there in 1848, the planters and most of the merchants sold out and left. The negroes flocked to town and began to eke out a precarious existence as porters, stevedores, cooks, washers, barbers, hucksters and "herb doctors." The magnificent country homes and plantations went to decay, and are reverting to a state of nature.

☞ L. B. Hodges, Secretary of the Minnesota Forestry association, reported the other day that for the first time in the history of the State, hundreds of prairie settlers have been compelled this winter to burn their furniture, their farm implements, the floors out of their houses, their stables and out-houses, to keep themselves from freezing. Others, with plenty of bedding, have lain in bed days at a time to keep warm. Others have bought pine lumber at $17 to $20 a thousand feet and burned it.

☞ Portsmouth, N. H., has been very unlucky in the matter of fires during the past year, the losses from that cause amounting to $427,850.

☞ There are many nervous disorders that have plagued one for years and taken away all enjoyments of life. Take the brain and nerve food, Vitalized Phosphites, and permanently strengthen yourself. By Druggists.

☞ The shoe shop, store and tenement house, the building belonging to Marcy Bros., in Union, Conn., was burned Friday night. Mrs. Geo. Stone, a daughter aged five years and a son of two years perished.

☞ New Mexico detectives have ascertained that Col. Potter of the United States geological survey, missing since October, was murdered and robbed by three Mexicans, while on duty in the field.

☞ A dispatch from Santa Cruz says eight Chinamen, while cutting timber on the line of the South Pacific Coast railroad near Dougherty's mill, were buried alive Saturday by half a mile of the mountain sliding down.

☞ California and British Columbia have experienced of late the heaviest rain storms known since 1861. Rivers have overflowed their banks in California, inundating miles of territory and destroying an immense amount of property.

☞ The residence of Wiley Emery, near Carryville, Ky., was burned Saturday evening, and the bodies of Mr. Emery and his seven children were found in the ruins. It is supposed that the family were murdered, the house robbed and then set on fire.

☞ The coroner's jury at Dover, N. H., reported that the fire at the county farm was caused by a furnace, known to be out of repair, and censured the county representative delegation for not providing an abundance of water.

☞ The propeller St. Albans, of the Ludington Northern Transportation Company, was wrecked Sunday on Lake Michigan, and the passengers and crew took to the small boats. After being out all night and a part of Monday they were picked up and taken into Milwaukee.

☞ The New Hampshire State hatching house at Plymouth, has just received 50,000 eggs of the calibing or *salmo salvertinus*, known in Europe as the red trout. They were given by the German Government to Prof. Baird, U. S. Fish Commissioner, and by him given to the State of New Hampshire. They are when hatched to be placed in Lake Winnipesaukee. They are a very fine table fish, and this is the first attempt to introduce them into this country. They spawn in streams, increase rapidly, and often weigh 25 pounds.

☞ A contract has just been agreed upon between the authorities of Florida and I. Corzel of Jacksonville and A. B. Linderman, representing capitalists of Philadelphia and the Pacific coast, to drain Lake Okeechobee in Southern Florida. This will reclaim 12,000,000 acres of the best sugar land in the world. The territory will include the celebrated Everglades, and be in extent twice as large as the State of New Jersey. This is the largest contract on record, and, when completed, Florida can produce more sugar than the United States now consumes.

☞ Severe rains during the latter part of last week have done immense damage in California. A Sacramento despatch of the 31st ult. says that the levee has broken three miles below that city in two places, and much damage to farms and orchards will follow. The water is backing up toward the city. Levees around the city are all right and no danger is apprehended. A number of extensive crevasses have occurred on the opposite side of the river, in Yolo county, and much damage is reported. Losses at present roughly estimated at $1,000,000. The river is 26 feet above low water mark, the highest ever before attained.

☞ An old man named Edward Leeman, who had for many years hoarded in this city, and was supposed to have no friends nor relatives, and to be miserably poor, was found dead in his room a few days ago, and the officers in searching his effects found money and bonds to the amount of $15,000. The fact being published in the daily papers, the old man's relatives, who belong in Maine, turned up very speedily, and laid claim to the cash, which however, the medical examiner will hold on to for the present, until the courts decide who has the best claim to it.

ESSAY UPON ENSILAGE,

By the author of the "Book of Ensilage," giving latest results, free by mail, on receipt of stamp.

JOHN M. BAILEY,

"Winning Farm," Billerica, Mass.

The Markets.

BOSTON RETAIL PRICES.

Inside of Faneuil Hall Market.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 2, 1881.

[Corrected weekly by HILDON & WOODWARD, No. 5, *Beef and Mutton*; GEO. H. ROBERTS, Nos. 12 & 13, *Poultry and Game*; H. BIRD & CO., Nos. 38 & 40, *Beef, Pork, Lard and Hams*; C. C. CHAMBERLIN & CO., Nos. 79 & 81, *Butter, Cheese and Eggs*; SANDS, FURBER & CO., Nos. 88 & 90, *Fruit and Vegetables*; SHATTUCK & JONES, No. 128, *Fish*; GEO. E. RICHARDSON & Co., No. 1, F. H. Square, *Fruit and Nuts.*]

Butter, Cheese and Eggs.

Butter, ℔ ℔.—		Cheese, ℔ ℔	.14 @ .18
Lump	.30 @ .60	Eggs, ℔ doz	.16 @ .18
Prime tub	.35 @ .38	Nutmegs, each	.25 @ .50
2d quality	.25 @ .32	Eggs, ℔ doz	.35 @ .40
common	.21 @ .23	Capo	.45 @ .50

Fruits and Berries.

Apples—℔ bbl	1.00 @ 2.00	Cranberries, ℔ qt	.12
℔ pk	.20 @ .40	Lemons, ℔ doz	.20 @ .50
Cocoanuts, ea	.5 @ .8	Oranges, ℔ doz	.25 @ .75

Fruits and Nuts—Dry and Canned.

Almonds, ℔ ℔	.25 @ .40	Peaches, ℔ ℔	.20 @ .25
shelled, ℔ ℔	.50 @ .60	℔ qt can	.40 @ .50
Apples, ℔ ℔	.8 @ .12	Raisins, lay℔ ℔	.25 @ .35
Cashana, ℔ ℔	.10 @ .15	Muscatel ℔ ℔	.12 @ .15
Citron, ℔ ℔	.20 @ .25	Shagbarks, ℔ qt	.8 @ .10
Dates, ℔ ℔	.10 @ .15	Walnuts, English	.13 @ .20
Figs, ℔ ℔	.15 @ .40	Filberts, ℔ ℔	.12 @ .20
Fig, ℔ ℔	.15 @ .20	Zante currts, ℔ box	.10 @ .12
Peanuts ℔ qt	.10 @ .15		
Pecans ℔ ℔	.15 @ .20		

Vegetables.

Beans, ℔ pk	.60	sweet, ℔ ℔	.4 @ .6
Beets, ℔ pk	.25 @ .40	Radishes, bch	.2 @ .3
Cabbages, ea	.10 @ .15	Rhubarb, ℔ ℔	.20
Carrots, ℔ pk	.25	Sage and Thyme—	
Celery, ℔ bch	.15 @ .25	℔ bunch	.6
Dandelions, ℔ pk	.60	Spinach, ℔ pk	.50 @ .87
Horseradish, ℔ ℔	.12	Squashes—	
Lettuce, ℔ head	.10	Marrow, ℔ ℔	.1½ @ .2
Onions, ℔ ℔	.5 @ .6	Hubbard, ℔ ℔	.3
Peas, spilt, ℔ qt	.10	Mushrooms, ℔ ℔	.1 @ 1.75
Potatoes, ℔ pk	.20 @ .25	Salsify, bch	.15 @ .20
℔ bushel	1.00 @ 1.50	Turnips, ℔ ℔	.2 @ .3
℔ barrel	1.75 @ 2.00		

Meats—Fresh.

Beef, ℔ ℔—		Lard, leaf	.9 @ .10
Sirloin steak	.20 @ .22	Tried	.9 @ .13
Round do	.14 @ .16	Mutton—	
Rib, roast	.12 @ .20	legs, ℔ ℔	.12½ @ .18
Chuck rib	.6 @ .12	fore qr, ℔ ℔	.6 @ .10
Plate and ribs	.6 @ .8	chops	.15 @ .20
Soup piece	.3 @ .4	Pork, ℔ ℔	
Liver	.8 @ .10	Roast and stks	.9 @ .10
Hearts, ℔ ℔	.3 @ .4	Suet, ℔ ℔	.2 @ .3
Hogs' round, ℔ ℔	.6 @ .8	Tallow, ℔ ℔	.6 @ .8
Haslet, sheep, ea	.5	Veal, hd qr ℔	.14 @ .17
Kidney, each	.8	fore qr	.8 @ .12
Lamb—		Veal cutlets	.15 @ .20
hind qr, ℔ ℔	.14 @ .17	Sweetbreads	.33 @ .50
fore qr, ℔ ℔	.8 @ .10		

Meats—Salt, Smoked, &c.

Pork, hams, ℔ ℔	.11 @ .12	smoked, ea	.75 @ .87
Bacon, ℔ ℔	.12 @ .14	Sheep, skin, ea	.40 @ .50
Shoulders, ℔ ℔	.8 @ .9	Pigs' feet, ℔ ℔	.8
Salt, ℔ ℔	.9 @ .11	Sausage, ℔ ℔	.8 @ .10
Beef, corned, ℔ ℔	.6 @ .12	Bologna, ℔ ℔	.9 @ .10
Smoked, ℔ ℔	.8 @ .10	Tripe, ℔ ℔	.10 @ .12
Tongues, ℔ ℔	.13 @ .15		

Poultry and Game.

Chickens, ℔ ℔	.15 @ .17	quarter, ℔ ℔	.10 @ .15
Ducks, chicks, ℔ ℔	.15 @ .20	Quail ℔ doz	.2.50 @ 3.00
Rabbits, pr	.25 @ .50	Partridge, ea	.25 @ .50
Fowls, ℔ ℔	.12 @ .15	Teal, pr	.50

New England Farmer,

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY, BY

DARLING & KEITH,

14 Merchants Row, Boston, Mass.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Advertisements, 1st insertion, 12 cts. per line.
Each subsequent insertion, 8 " " "
Business Notices, first " 15 " "
Each subsequent 12 " "
Reading Matter Notices, . . . 50 " "

Advertisements must be sent in as early in the week as Tuesday, to secure insertion.

Advertisers are charged for the space occupied in solid nonpareil measure.

Transient advertising must be prepaid.
Cuts inserted without extra charge.
No advertisement inserted for less than one dollar.
Special terms for Probate and Farm Advertising.
☞ The above are net prices for all advertising less than $100 in amount.

TRAVELLING AGENTS.

The following gentlemen, who authorized Agents for the NEW ENGLAND FARMER, will canvass for subscribers and collections in the following Counties in New England:—

G. W. NYE, ... WORCESTER CO., MS.
LESTER BARNES, ... NORFOLK CO., MASS.
FREEMAN ROBBINS, . . . ORANGE CO., VT.
F. W. CHEEVER, ... ESSEX CO., VT., and COOS CO., N. H.
A. W. WINGATE, ... YORK CO., ME.

Subscribers are requested to forward their subscriptions without waiting for the Agent to call. The date on their label will always show how far they have paid up.

Farmers' Directory.

The Business Houses whose cards appear in this directory are among the best and most reliable in the [illegible]

INSURANCE.

Quincy Mutual Fire Insurance Co.
APRIL 1, 1880, CASH FUND, $393,677.61.
Dividends paid on every expiring Policy 50 per cent. on 5 years; 30 per cent. on 3 years, and 20 per cent. on all others. Liabilities, $190,000. Surplus, $[illegible]. This Company pays for damage by lightning, where no marks of fire are visible.
ISRAEL W. MUNROE, Pres't
CHAS. A. HOWLAND, Sec'y. 17

PRODUCE.

COTTON SEED MEAL.
One Thousand Tons
COTTON SEED MEAL.
For sale in ton and car lots.
J. E. SOPER & CO., 2 India St., Boston, Mass.

C. C. CHAMBERLIN & CO.,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
AND DEALERS IN
BUTTER, EGGS, CHEESE AND LARD,
Nos. 79 & 81 Faneuil Hall Market,
BOSTON.

General Intelligence.

PERSONAL.

Mr. Cornelius J. Vanderbilt is defendent in a suit for $2500 which has been brought against him by a dealer in horses to recover the value of an animal which Mr. Vanderbilt had borrowed, and which died while in his possession. Mr. Vanderbilt claims that a liberal estimate placed the value of the horse at less than $200, and that the dealer was making an exorbitant claim in setting his value at $2500.

Another member of the Massachusetts Legislature died on Wednesday, 26th ult., Josiah F. Stone, member of the House from the 14th Middlesex District. His death makes the third that has occurred in the House since the session began.

Archibald Gibson, Second Lieutenant, Seventh United States Cavalry, son of Chas. Gibson, a prominent lawyer of St. Louis, has just died from a singular cause. One day, while on parade at West Point, a spider got into one of his ears. By the rules he was not allowed to raise his hand, and stood in the ranks more than an hour, while the spider worked its way into the ear. When dismissed his ear was full of blood, and the insect could not be removed for two days. This caused a corrosion of the bone next to the brain, and gave him a great deal of trouble. He went to his regiment in Northern Dakota, and, after performing some service, and suffering from a severe attack of sickness, he came home expecting to resign, but, it proved, only to die of inflammation of the brain.

When crossing the ocean, Mrs. Harris, wife of the United States Consul at Venice, was so ill that her life was despaired of, and she nearly lost her eyesight. The best physicians of London and Paris told her that she could return to this country only at the risk of her life, and with the certainty of total blindness. She is a bright little woman, about fifty years of age. She was very prominent during the civil war, having been Secretary of the Philadelphia Soldiers' Aid Society—the first one organized. She passed months with the army of the Potomac, overseeing the distribution of delicacies for the sick and watching with the wounded on the field of battle.

The widow of the late Prof. James C. Watson, the astronomer of Michigan University, will contest his will because she is by no means satisfied with being cut off from a large estate with only $200 per year.

INDIAN HOSTILITIES.—The Indians in New Mexico have been getting troublesome again, and during the past two or three weeks have committed as many as forty murders, causing great alarm among the settlers. On January 19th, three herders and two miners were killed at Muchlaride gulch. On the 20th, two men were killed on Upper Chrichills in a fight with Apaches. On the 22d, five Mexicans were killed twenty miles southwest of San Marcial. On the 21st, a family, consisting of man, wife, child and mother-in-law, were massacred near Carrigo, fifteen miles west of San Marcial. On the 23d, a buckboard was taken between Silver City and San Marcial, five miles from San Jose, and the driver killed. The Mexican interpreter of Turlowe's reservation was found dead. Forty Indians left the reservation. It is generally believed that there are not less than 200 Indians in bands of from ten to thirty, on the war path. The military appear to be doing absolutely nothing. Col. Price, an experienced Indian fighter, who was in command of the field forces in south-eastern Arizona, and had just organized a campaign, was retired on the 24th, and Major Riddle put in command. Good service was expected from Price, as he is well acquainted with the section of New Mexico where the Indians are doing their work.

KING KALAKAUA of the Sandwich Islands, is about to leave his dominions for the purpose of visiting different Asiatic and European nations, with the view to find out the most feasible means of attracting a desirable class of immigrants to the Islands, to take the place of the natives, who seem destined to extinction within a comparatively short time. The King does not favor Chinese immigration, nor do the people want them. He would not probably find it very hard work to induce either of the leading maritime powers of the world to take his little kingdom off his hands altogether, at a fair valuation, and complete the work of exterminating the Kanakas right speedily.

MRS. PARTINGTON says don't take any of the quack rostrums, as they are regimental to the human cistern; but put your trust in Hop Bitters, which will cure general dilapidation, costive habits and all comic diseases. They saved Isaac from a severe extact of tripod fever. They are the ne plus unum of medicines.—*Boston Globe.*

HUNDREDS of men, women and children rescued from beds of pain, sickness and almost death and made strong and hearty by Parker's Ginger Tonic are the best evidences in the world of its sterling worth. You can find these in every community. *Post.* See advertisement.

LADIES who appreciate elegance and purity are using Parker's Hair Balsam. It is the best article sold for restoring gray hair to its original color and beauty.

HARASSING DREAMS.—An unnatural excitement of the brain and nervous system is the direct cause of sleeplessness, as also of harassing nocturnal dreams. VEGETINE has a peculiarly soothing effect in all such cases, when taken just before going to bed.

No purer, safer, more unobjectionable stimulant in medicine than Malt Bitters.

CATTLE ON SHIPBOARD.

The great drawback to the profitableness of the business of shipping cattle to Europe, is in the losses by the death of animals on the voyage, which are stated on high authority to have amounted to as much as $60,000 in a single week. A great part of this loss of course is from animals being washed or thrown overboard in bad weather, but the greater part of the deaths occur from the weakness and suffering caused by seasickness and crowding. How to avoid seasickness has been an unsolved problem, ever since people first began to "go down unto the sea in ships" and devices without number have been tried for this purpose, only to be abandoned as impracticable upon a decisive trial. The latest invention of the kind is that of Mr. John H. Laskey of this city, who, like a physician of the middle ages, tries his remedy upon swine, before venturing to use it upon the human subject. His plan, in brief, consists of a crib, so suspended as to keep itself always level, and avoid the effect of the motions of the ship. One of these cribs was recently tested on the steamship Gloucester fron New York to Liverpool. It was in size twenty-two by eight feet, and carried sixty-four hogs. Not one died on the voyage, and the gain in weight of each showed how completely the animals had been freed from the sickness and discomforts of the voyage. On the same ship were other hogs, with the ordinary accommodations; and ten per cent of these died on the way. Of course the same system can be extended so as to cover other animals as well as hogs, and if on further trial it is found to answer the ends required of it, as well as it has done in this first experiment, we may not only look to see the business of shipping cattle to Europe very much increased in magnitude as well as in profit, but we may even hope to cross the ocean ourselves without fear of seasickness.

BLACK POLLED ANGUS CATTLE.

In last week's paper we mentioned the arrival at this port of a herd of eight of these celebrated cattle on their way to the Sandwich Islands. The animals were kept in this city for a few days to rest, and many stock raisers and dealers have taken advantage of the opportunity to examine them. The breed is by no means common in America, the only herd in the Eastern States being owned by Mr. Frank B. Redfield, of Batavia, Genessee county, N. Y., and having been bred by Mr. Thomas Ferguson of Kimochtry, in Scotland, the same breeder from whom the herd just arrived were purchased. These animals are the property of the Hon. James J. Dowsett and Mr. Hugh A. Fergusson of Honolulu, Sandwich Islands, and they are destined for Honolulu at present, in charge of the latter gentleman. Their marked characteristics are absence of horns, the jet blackness and silky softness of their coats, and the straightness of their backs. Mr. Fergusson, who has had considerable experience in raising and breeding cattle, both in Scotland and in America, says that they are very good milkers; that the quality of their beef is superior to that of almost any other breed; and that the animals very quickly attain maturity. Certainly the two-year-old heifers weich he has with him are very graceful and well developed, and the two-year-old bull "His Grace," bought from the Earl of Southesk, is a magnificent fellow. Two other yearling bulls are well-fleshed and appear to be very large specimens for their age; the whole lot is in wonderfully good condition, considering their long voyage.

POULTRY EXHIBITION.—The Wide Awake Poultry Association held its second exhibition at St. Johnsbury, Vt., on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of last week. The show was very largely attended and is pronounced a decided success, exceeding in interest and value any poultry show ever held in that part of the State. Over 400 birds were exhibited including Leghorns, Bantams, Houdans, 75 pigeons, Polish, games, Hamburgs, Plymouth Rocks, Brahmas, Cochins, ducks, geese, turkeys, canaries and other rare breeds. Among the principal exhibitors, were C. F. Thompson, Wadleigh's Falls, N. H.; W. L. Swett, C. H. M. Anderson, A. B. Massey, A. A. Annis, E. Tilden, Asa Deane, J. St. John, Geo. Crosby and Arthur Taplin, St. Johnsbury; J. T. Flint, W. W. Pike, Derby Line; W. F. James and F. W. Bowen, Sherbrooke, Que.; C. H. Curtis and J. B. Hay, Bradford, and J. T. Wilson, Nashua.

AMERICAN TEA CULTURE.

Commissioner Le Duc of the Agricultural Department, has been interviewed on the subject of the new experimental tea farm in South Carolina. He says an attempt was made to raise tea about 30 years in Georgia, and the tea plants had grown up into a sort of hedge there when a man came to me who had been raising tea in Asia, and made the proposition to give it a trial again. He went to that place, about 40 miles from Savannah, cultivated some of the old plants, planted some new ones, and gathered a crop. I have a machine here, made in England, for making tea, drying the leaf, &c., which can do as much work as 500 people in a day, and have prepared some of the tea. I took it to A. A. Low, the eminent tea merchant of New York, and asked him to have his expert examine some of it, without saying where it was raised. The expert said it was raised in India in the Province of Siam, and was worth 50 cents a pound. This encouraged me, and I chose a place in South Carolina to begin the systematic culture of tea, which the proprietor, Mr. Middleton, allowed me to have for nothing. I have got 200 acres there on a long lease for $1, and am now cultivating the tea. We can raise tea, I am satisfied, along our Atlantic slope, from the lower part of Virginia out to Texas.

☞ Although waging an expensive war with Peru, Chili is said to be in a flourishing condition. Last year's wheat crop was very fine, and her exports for 1880 exceeded those of previous years. In 1879 the products of her mines amounted to $26,248,731, which is more than the mineral productions of California for the same time, and her agricultural products were valued at $12,000,000. Over 1,070,700 quintals of nitrates were exported.

☞ A black walnut tree of average size cut in Wisconsin, shipped to England, and reduced to gun stocks, is worth from $1000 to $1500.

GROUND BONE.—The value of finely-ground bone as a fertilizer is too generally acknowledged, to be now a question for any argument, but the difficulty of reducing bones to a sufficiently fine condition by means readily at the command of the average farmer, restricts their use, and deprives our fields of elements which are of prime necessity. Like many other kinds of business the preparation of bone for fertilizing is now carried on upon an extensive scale by manufacturers who have the facilities for doing the work far below the cost of individual effort, and at the same time to give the purchaser a better article than he would be likely to make himself. Farmers who have waited long and patiently for bones to become soft and fine when packed in ashes or heating manures, or who have burnt their fingers handling sulphuric acid, should spend an hour in some large fertilizer manufactory like that of L. B. Darling & Co., whose advertisement appears in another column, and see for themselves with what ease and rapidity hard, dry bones are converted into available plant-food.

MRS. LYDIA E. PINKHAM, 233 Western Ave., Lynn, Mass., is rapidly acquiring an enviable reputation for the surprising cures which daily result from the use of her Vegetable Compound in all female diseases. Send to her for pamphlets.

THOUSANDS are to-day rejoicing in good health, who would, but for the use of Dr. Topliff's Syrup of Tar, have been in their graves, or dragging out a miserable existence.

The World Abroad.

SUMMARY OF LATEST FOREIGN DISPATCHES.

Great Britain.

The Irish question still continues to occupy the attention of Parliament, almost to the total exclusion of other matters, which has caused considerable dissatisfaction in England. Mr. Forster's bill for the protection of life and property in Ireland has been strenuously opposed by the Home Rule members and a section of the Liberal party, and has not yet made much progress.

Ireland has been ablaze for the last few days, rejoicing at the result of the State trials. "Parnell is free," is emblazoned on a thousand banners in the towns and villages to which the League has extended its operations. Bonfires are burned on every hillside. The feeble gleam of tallow candles inadequately expresses the joy of the inmates of the cottages. The popular demonstration has passed without particular disturbance, though there have been isolated instances where the constabulary, with mistaken zeal, interfered when bonfires were erected in the market places, and displays of fireworks were attempted in the streets. It has been stated authoritatively in the House of Commons that a new trial will not be granted.

Considerable alarm is felt throughout the Kingdom at an apprehended Fenian uprising, of which the Government claims to have had warning. Extraordinary precautions have been taken. The Second Battalion of the Eighteenth or Royal Irish Regiment of Foot at Aldershot, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Gregorie, has been disarmed. Precautions have been taken against attempts on the Government powder mills at Waltham Abbey and the small arms factory at Enfield. The Horse Armory and the White Tower, containing the armory at the Tower of London, have been closed to the public by instructions from the War Office. The Dublin authorities have made arrangements to increase the number of mounted constabulary at forty-seven stations in outlying districts of the South and West of Ireland, and mounted men will be attached to the stations for the purpose of securing communication in case the telegraph lines are cut. The flying columns stationed at Limerick, Farmoy and Cork marched on Tuesday. Extraordinary precautions are being taken for the protection of the barracks at Tralee.

On Sunday placards were posted in all parts of Ireland and in some places in England, purporting to emanate from the Supreme Council of the Irish Republican Brotherhood, commonly called the Fenian Organization, calling upon the adherents of the Irish National cause to abstain from violence, and to wait quietly until the signal for revolt shall be given by their officers. The proclamation declares that it is the purpose of the English government to provoke a premature outbreak, which as yet Ireland is not ready for, although she has ample cause for revolt.

The proclamation was drawn only after grave deliberation and consultation with the Irish leaders in America, Scotland and England. It was posted all over Ireland Saturday night at midnight on all the chapels and police barracks of Ireland and in the Irish centres throughout Scotland and England. In Dublin the copies were torn down and taken possession of by the police. The appearance of the document caused the greatest excitement. Telegrams from all parts show that the appearance of the placard caused great uneasiness among the authorities, who immediately ordered them to be torn down. It is ten years since seditious placards have been posted simultaneously in Ireland.

The colliers in some of the English mines have struck for higher wages and collisions with the police have occurred. After a meeting, attended by 20,000 miners, at Leigh, a mob went to the Atherton collieries and a desperate riot ensued. The Hussars, infantry and police were on the ground and the riot act was read. The Hussars then charged upon the mob and several miners and policemen were injured.

The news from the seat of war in South Africa has caused a strong feeling among the Radical and Irish members of Parliament in favor of granting the Boers belligerent rights if not of abandoning the Transvaal altogether, and restoring the independence of the Republic.

France.

The Bank of France has tried to cure the gold drain by issuing notes. This has failed, as was predicted. It is quite possible now that the only resort for the bank is to fall back on a silver standard, persuading as many other countries as they can to join them.

The meeting of the Panama Canal Company was held on Monday. Stock to the amount of 317,000 francs was represented. The report of De Lesseps seeks to show that the Nicaragua Canal is practically an impossibility. It declares that a complete agreement has been arrived at with the United States regarding the Panama scheme, the only proviso being that the neutrality of the canal shall be assured. Seventy engineers superintendents and doctors have been sent to the isthmus. Steam engines have been ordered which will permit of the employment of a number of day laborers, not to exceed 8000.

The East.

England has assured the Porte that she does not wish to obstruct negotiations on the Greek question, and that she will act in harmony with the other powers. In the event of war the Porte intends exercising to the fullest extent its rights as a belligerent at sea. Instructions for the guidance of naval commanders will be based on English and American precedents. A commission has been formed for the purpose of considering a projected naval prize law.

Greece is forming additional army corps, and several regiments have been ordered to the frontier, on account of which Turkish transports are conveying 27,000 men from Smyrna to the Gulf of Volo as a precaution.

South African War.

The Boers took up a strong position in the Drakenberg pass, which is among the last of the steep ascents leading to the plateau. They permitted Gen. Colley to advance unmolested through some of the worst places in the mountains, with a force of about 1000 men, and attack their position. Gen. Colley was badly defeated and obliged to fall back to await reinforcements which can not reach him for some time. His loss in killed, wounded and missing was nearly one-fifth of his entire force. The Boers of the Orange Free State have held a meeting at which they determined to send horses and cattle to the Boers in the Transvaal.

South American War.

The agent of the Lloyds' at Arica, Peru, telegraphs, under date of 26th ult., that the blockade of Callao is raised. The following are the conditions of peace offered by Chili: The surrender of the allied fleet and the payment of an indemnity of $30,000,000, whereof Peru shall assume $20,000,000 and Bolivia $10,000,000, Chili to occupy Callao and work the guano deposits and copper and saltpetre mines, until the full payment of indemnity is made.

General Items.

Gen. Skobeleff telegraphs from Geok Tepe on Jan. 24, announcing that the Russians that day captured Geok Tepe and Dengil Tepe, after nine hours' desperate fighting, and that the Tekke-Turcomans are in full retreat. Their loss was enormous.

Great damage has been caused by floods in the provinces of Madrid, Seville, Cadiz, Cordova, Badajos, Valladolid, Toledo, Saragossa, Tervel, Jaen, Muria, Guadalajara, Burgos, Malaga and Barcelona. The railways are under water. The Guadalquiver River is still rising.

Business Notices.

HUMAN BLOOD.—On the purity and vitality of the blood depend the vigor and health of the whole system. Disease of various kinds is often only the sign that nature is trying to remove the disturbing cause. A remedy that gives life and vigor to the blood, eradicates scrofula and other impurities from it, as Hood's Sarsaparilla undoubtedly does, must be the means of preventing many diseases that would occur without its use. Sold by dealers.

Canvassers make from $25 to $50 per week selling goods for E. G. RIDEOUT & CO., 10 Barclay St., New York. Send for Catalogue and terms. 52t35

The Greatest Discovery of the Age.
For over thirty four years DR. TOBIAS'S VENETIAN LINIMENT has been warranted to cure Croup, Colic, Spasms, Diarrhea and Dysentery, taken internally, and Sore Throat, Pains in the Limbs, Chronic Rheumatism, Old Sores, Pimples, Blotches and Swellings, externally, and not a bottle has been returned, many families stating they would not be without it even if it was $10 a bottle. Sold by druggists at 25 and 50 cts. Depot, 42 Murray St., N. Y. 26t45

A CARD.
To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, &c., I will send a recipe that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the REV. JOSEPH T. INMAN, Station D, New York City. 52t19

Marriages and Deaths.

MARRIED.

In Randolph, Jan. 26, by Rev. J. C. Labaree, Herbert W. Pratt to Helen W. Belcher.
In Bridgewater, Jan. 26, by Rev. T. F. Wright, Nahum Washburn, Jr., to Miss Corinna Bates.
In Lancaster, Jan. 27, by Rev. Wm. LeLoss Love, Jr., Ralph S. Johnson to Effie C. Hallett of Hyannis.
In Quincy, Jan. 25, by Rev. D. M. Wilson, Wm. E. Robertson of Portland, Oregon, to Sarah A. Wood.
In Sherborn, by Rev. Edmund Dowse, H. L. Gordon to Frances M. Aldrich, both of Natick.

DIED.

In this city, Jan. 28, Susan, widow of Dea. Joel Capen, formerly of Dorchester, 84 yrs.
In Brighton, Jan. 27, Mary A., daughter of Henry Jacobs, 18 yrs 6 mos.
In Kingston, Jan. 26, Margaret Daily, 58 yrs.
In Worcester, Jan. 25, Lucy E. Davis, 25 yrs 10 mos.
In Burlington, Jan. 25, Lorinda Reed, 88 yrs.
In Norwood, Jan. 25, Woodbury Cottle, 51 yrs 5 mos.
In Cohasset, Jan. 25, Miss Eliza Bourne, 87 yrs 2 mos.
In So. Acton, Jan. 22, Mrs. Betsy H. Adams, 86 yrs 9 mos.
In Providence, Jan. 25, Anna, widow of Geo. M. Richmond, 71 yrs.
In Winchester, Jan. 25, Martha J. Huston, 22 yrs 10 mos.
In Cambridgeport, Jan. 30, Mrs. Myra G. Abbot, formerly of Groveland, 81 yrs.
In Newton, Jan. 30, Wm. T. Tillinghast, 56 yrs.
In Salem, Jan. 28, Mrs. Margaret, widow of Pierce L. Wiggin, Esq., 85 yrs 5 mos.
In Reading, Jan. 31, Addie B., wife of C. Eugene Peirce, 25 yrs 7 mos.
In Sudbury, Jan. 29, Mrs. Abigail, wife of Mr. Asa Durell, 72 yrs.
In Manchester, Jan. 31, Capt. Chas. Fitz, 74 yrs 6 mos.
In Newburyport, Jan. 25, Capt. Wm. T. Colby, 75 yrs 6 mos.
In Charlestown, Jan. 29, Mrs. Charlotte E., widow of Rufus L. Tay, 68 yrs.
In East Somerville, Jan. 29, John Smith, 86 yrs.
In Malden, Jan. 30, Mary, widow of Wm. Tothill, 83.
In Providence, R. I., Jan. 30, John W. Doe, 67.
In Duxbury, Jan. 26, Mary Ann, daughter of the late Maj. Judah Alden, 79 yrs 10 mos.
In Medford, Jan. 27, John O. Hollis, 56 yrs 2 mos.
In Randolph, Jan. 26, Ebenezer Alden, M. D., 92 yrs 10 mos.
In Danvers, Jan. 25, Sylvanus B. Swan, 74 yrs 6 mos.
In Brockton, Jan. 27, James A. Bicknell, formerly of Augusta, Me., 67 yrs.
In York, Me., Jan. 19, Col. Jeremiah Brooks, 88 yrs 5 mos.
In Portland, Me., Jan. 26, Capt. John J. Liscomb, 65 yrs.
In Antrim, N. H., Jan. 25, Alice May, daughter of Geo. E. Whittum.

☞ *Persons ordering articles advertised in our columns, will please say that they saw the advertisement in the* NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

New Advertisements.

SEEDS
NORTHERN GROWN
sent by mail to any part of the United States duty paid,
CATALOGUE for 1881 free to all intending buyers.
WM. RENNIE, Seedsman, Toronto, Canada.
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WANTED.
A LIVE SALESMAN WANTED IN every town in the U. S. to sell first class goods. None but wide-awake people need apply. *No drones wanted.* For particulars address
AARON H. LITTLEFIELD, Ogunquit, York County, Me.
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SOLID FACTS
Proving Faith Whitcomb's Shaker Liniment, the most effective cure for Rheumatism and Neuralgia.

Dr. W. P. SYLVESTER says: "I use Faith Whitcomb's Shaker Liniment, and recommend it to all sufferers from Neuralgia and Rheumatism. It is better than any other liniment."

A. HANSON, Boston Wire Works, 75 to 81 Cornhill, says: "My wife was cured of Neuralgia, four applications cured me of Rheumatism, and Mr. Lord, my neighbor, who had been on crutches 15 years, obtained relief from less than one bottle of Shaker Liniment."

CHAS. PRESCOTT, Merchant, Randolph, says: "Send me three dozen Shaker Liniment. My customers have confidence in it, and I can consistently recommend it."

Dr. U. K. MAYO, 337 Tremont st., says: "It is the most effective remedy that ever came to my notice, and I cheerfully recommend it."

PRICE 50 CENTS.
Sold by All Dealers in Medicine.
GEO. C. GOODWIN & CO., Boston,
eow18 Wholesale Agents.

ASH-TONIC
A Perfected Purifier of the System.
TONIC.—"*Increasing the strength, obviating the effects of debility, and restoring healthy functions.*"—WEBSTER.
For **Indigestion,** and Dyspepsia, the many forms of **Liver Complaint,** Impure and Impoverished **Blood,** and Functional Derangements attendant upon Debility, and for **Building up** the weak, **Ash-Tonic** is doubtless the most prompt and certain remedy yet devised. In **1-2 lb.** bottles, **75** cents; Six bottles, $4. Accredited Physicians and Clergymen, who may desire to test the Tonic, will be supplied with not exceeding six bottles, at **one-half** the retail price, money to accompany the order. Sold by Druggists, and by D. B. Dewey & Co., 46 Dey St., N. Y.

Castoria – 35doses
35 cents. A pleasant, cheap, and valuable remedy for fretful and puny children.

CENTAUR LINIMENT
For Sprains, Wounds, Scalds, Rheumatism, and any pain upon Man or Beast.

DARLING'S
FINE BONE
—AND—
ANIMAL FERTILIZER
ARE THE STANDARD.
THIS FERTILIZER IS APPLICABLE to all crops, being very rich in the chemicals required on New England soils; it is available at once and carries the crops through. For top dressing it has no equal. Darling's Lawn Dressing especially prepared for the lawn, and Flower Grower in neat packages for house plants. Try them. Bone meal for cattle, Chicken Bone, Bone for mechanical purposes, also Pure Beef Scraps, Chicken Feed, &c.
Address the manufacturers for new circulars of 1881,
L. B. DARLING & CO.,
PAWTUCKET, R. I.
Agents in Boston, Jos. Breck & Sons, Whittemore Bros., Parker & Gannett and Hovey & Co. 17t6

SIMMONS LIVER REGULATOR
CLERGYMEN, BANKERS, BOOK KEEPERS, EDITORS and others that lead sedentary lives, will find much relief from Headaches, Nervousness and Constipation engendered from want of exercise, by taking Simmons Regulator. It is a harmless vegetable compound, and numbers who have tried it will confidently assert that it is the best remedy that can be used. It expels the poisonous humors of the blood, cleanses the liver, restores the kidneys to healthy action and drives out the despondency and gloom of ill health. The patient soon feels as if he had taken a new lease of life, and is overjoyed to find the depressed feeling dissipated, the costive habits corrected and new streams of health coursing through his veins.
"Simmons Liver Regulator is a very valuable remedy for Dyspepsia, Sick Headache, Torpid Liver, Constipation, Piles and such like diseases. "W. S. HOLT, President of S. W. R. R. Co., of Georgia."

COOK'S FERTILIZER.
BLACKFISH GUANO.
THE SUBSCRIBER OFFERS TO THE public the above Fertilizer. It is one of the best preparations known to the agricultural community, rich in ammonia and phosphates, and in other fertilizing properties contained in no other. This Fertilizer is highly recommended by nurserymen and farmers. Is endorsed by State Assayer Hayes, as being "an excellent fertilizer either alone or composted with other materials." For price and information apply to
H. BARKER & CO., 76 Commercial St., and R. B. HAMBLIN, 193 and 195 South Market St., BOSTON.
J. COOK, Proprietor,
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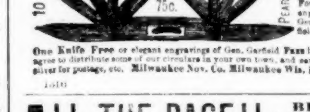

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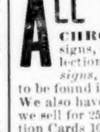

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Catalogues of Fruit Trees, Plants, and Flowers sent free.
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OPIUM. OPIUM.
Morphine habit Cured.
A GOOD PLAN.
DR. J. STEPHENS, Lebanon, Ohio.
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and other fast selling goods. Send to
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PERFECTLY RELIABLE.
HEARING RESTORED. No medicine. Book FREE. Something new.
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EMPLOYMENT FOR ALL!
Local or Traveling, state which is preferred. Salary promptly paid every month. Address,
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50 New Style Visiting Cards for only TEN CENTS.
816 B. ROBB, CINCINNATI, OHIO.

WANTED. Agents to send for our NEW CATALOGUE!
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MUSTACHE AND WHISKERS.
DYKE'S BEARD ELIXIR [illegible] Will force a full set of whiskers in 4 to 6 weeks. [illegible] SMITH & CO, Palatine, Ill. (*Guaranteed sent, never fails.*)
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☞A SPECIAL OFFER.☜
BEATTY'S ORGANS ONLY $85.
A $450 17 Stop Cabinet or Parlor Organ for only $85 cash.

Style No. 8000, 5 full set Golden Tongue Reeds, 17 Stops, &c.

Welcome to 1881. Something Original. With the new year comes to the front, the grandest invention in reed organs the Celestina, or French Horn.
☞ This beautiful solo Stop is connected with a set of reeds so tuned and voiced as to exactly imitate a French Horn. The imitation is so marked, that should an amateur musician be standing with his back to the organ it would puzzle him to determine whether it was really an organ or a horn. Besides, this instrument will contain the world renowned Vox Celeste the sweetest stop ever before placed in an organ, charming is the exclamation everywhere. Also the Vox Humana. A powerful set of Sub Bass Reeds, and Octave Coupler which doubles the power by pressing your finger on a key of the instrument, the key an octave higher will come down itself. Do not buy an organ unless it contains an octave coupler, if you do, you are cheated out of one of the finest improvements in reed organs. Be sure the instrument you purchase contains an octave coupler. Buy no other.
New style No. 8000 contains 17 stops, 5 full sets of Golden Tongue Reeds, 5 octaves, beautiful walnut case, french veneering, Handles, lamp stands, pocket for music extra large fancy top. Beatty's new patent stop action. Height 72 in, depth 24 in, length 46 in, weight, boxed, about 400 lbs. The pedals instead of being covered with carpet are made of metal. Upright bellows made from the very best quality of rubber cloth. It contains a sliding lid and has rollers for moving. It is by far the best organ for the money ever built in this country. Agents (monopolist price) for such an instrument would range from $150 to $450 according to the customer.
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IN MINNESOTA & DAKOTA
13t1

Legal Notices.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. MIDDLESEX, SS. PROBATE COURT. To the next of Kin, Creditors, and all other persons interested in the estate of ALBERT HAGAR, late of Lincoln, in said County, deceased, intestate: Whereas, application has been made to said Court to grant a letter of administration on the estate of said deceased, to HENRY FARNUM of Boston, in the County of Suffolk. You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court, to be held at Cambridge, in said County of Middlesex, on the first Tuesday of March next, at nine o'clock before noon, to show cause, if any you have, against granting the same. And the said petitioner is hereby directed to give public notice thereof, by publishing this citation once a week, for three successive weeks, in the newspaper called the NEW ENGLAND FARMER, printed at Boston, the last publication to be two days, at least, before said Court.
Witness, GEORGE M. BROOKS, Esquire, Judge of said Court, this thirty-first day of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-one.
3t6 J. H. TYLER, Register.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. NORFOLK, SS. PROBATE COURT. To all persons interested in the trust estate under the will of GEORGE B. CORDWELL, late of Sharon, in said county, deceased, Greeting: Whereas, HENRY H KINSELL, trustee under said will, has presented to said Court his petition praying for license to sell standing wood on said trust estate, and to hold and invest the proceeds as prayed for in said petition. You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be holden at Dedham, in said County of Norfolk, on the third Wednesday of February next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, against the same. And said petitioner is ordered to serve this citation by publishing the same, once a week, for three successive weeks, in the NEW ENGLAND FARMER, a newspaper printed at Boston, the last publication to be two days, at least, before said Court.
Witness, GEORGE WHITE, Esq., Judge of said Court, this twenty-second day of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty one.
3w5 JONATHAN COBB, Register.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. MIDDLESEX, SS. PROBATE COURT. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, and all other persons interested in the estate of MARIA L. FLINT, late of North Reading, in said County, deceased, Greeting: Whereas a certain instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of said deceased, has been presented to said Court, for Probate, by JOSEPHINE M. FLINT, who prays that letters of administration with the will annexed may be issued to her, the executrix named in said will having deceased. You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge, in said County of Middlesex, on the second Tuesday of February next, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, against the same. And said petitioner is hereby directed to give public notice thereof, by publishing this citation once a week, for three successive weeks, in the newspaper called the NEW ENGLAND FARMER, printed at Boston, the last publication to be two days, at least, before said Court.
Witness, GEORGE M. BROOKS, Esquire, Judge of said Court, this thirteenth day of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-one.
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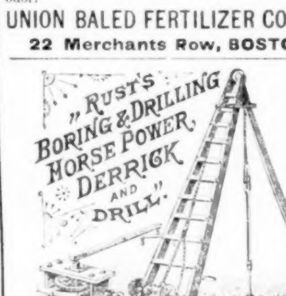

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IS THE EXCLAMATION OF CONNOISSEURS, when seeing and tasting the Pratt Rareripe Peach. The tree is a strong and graceful grower, long lived, and a constant and abundant bearer, and seems to be entirely free from disease. The fruit is large, dark red, beautifully mottled and splashed with deep orange. Flesh yellow, tinged with crimson, very firm, sweet, and rich. For shipping, canning, and the dessert it has no superior. *It invariably reproduces itself from the pit,* ripens in September. I offer for sale, a fine lot of seedlings of the Pratt Rareripe, one year old, at $1.00 for two trees, or $5.00 per doz., by mail. JAMES H. DWELLEY,
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J. W. RICHARDSON, Boston Agent.
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Poetry.

"O MAY I JOIN THE CHOIR INVISIBLE."

BY GEORGE ELIOT.

[*Longum illud tempus, quum non ero, magis me moret, quam hoc exiguum.*—Cicero.]

O may I join the choir invisible
Of those immortal dead who live again
In minds made better by their presence; live
In pulses stirred to generosity,
In deeds of daring rectitude, in scorn
For miserable aims that end with self,
In thoughts sublime that pierce the night like stars,
And with their mild persistence urge man's search
To vaster issues.

So to live is heaven:
To make undying music in the world,
Breathing as beauteous order that controls
With growing sway the growing life of man,
So we inherit that sweet purity
For which we struggled, failed, and agonized,
With widening retrospect that bred despair.
Rebellious flesh that would not be subdued,
A vicious parent shaming still its child
Poor anxious penitence, is quick dissolved;
Its discords, quenched by meeting harmonies,
Die in the large and charitable air.
And all our rarer, better, truer self,
That sobbed religiously in yearning song,
That watched to ease the burthen of the world,
Laboriously tracing what must be,
And what may yet be better—saw within
A worthier image for the sanctuary,
And shaped it forth before the multitude
Divinely human, raising worship so
To higher reverence more mixed with love—
That better self shall live till human time
Shall fold its eye-lids, and the human sky
Be gathered like a scroll within the tomb
Unrolled forever.

This is life to come,
Which martyred men have made more glorious
For us who strive to follow. May I reach
That purest heaven, be to other souls
The cup of strength in some great agony,
Enkindle generous ardor, feed pure love,
Beget the smiles that have no cruelty—
Be the sweet presence of a good diffused,
And in diffusion ever more intense.
So shall I join the choir invisible
Whose music is the gladness of the world.

1867.

The Story Teller.

SAVED BY A DOG.

AN AUSTRALIAN ADVENTURE.

The episode I am going to relate occurred not far from the township of Horsham, Victoria. Where the exact locality is, I have no intention of divulging; but if any of my readers are acquainted with the part of the world I refer to, they will remember that there exist one or two large streams within the wide radius I have named. Beside one of these rivers there was standing, about twenty years ago, a hut, which was known at the Homestead as Deep Water station; and it was here that my lot placed me as hut keeper. I lived at the Deep Water station for two years.

If readers of the following story wish to know who I am, I will gratify their curiosity so far as to state that I was born in the north of England. My father was a retired tradesman. He gave me a fair education, but I never fulfilled the expectation formed of me. This night, while I write, I can show nothing to prove that I ever succeeded in the world. I am a poor clerk, struggling for a bare existence, and sometimes struggling with a wild, strong impulse to wander and work through the country, as I often did before, near the scenes of my former experience. I like the red sunset and the wild plains as much as ever; I like the glow of the sunlight among the gnarled, queer trees; I like the rippling rays on the water—the waving, shadowy grass of the silent hills—the bright, still moon, the wilderness away from towns; I like Australian life, but not among the dusty streets, or near to white, sweltering roads. For twelve years I followed these impulses faithfully, and enjoyed my brush-life; with little profit, it is true, but with much pleasure. All that I have to show for all my wanderings and hardships, as I write, is a long, ugly scar across my breast, and I am going to tell you how I got it.

I remember I was sitting at the hut (the Deep Water hut) one summer afternoon, looking for the coming of "Long Mat." The sun was passing away blood-red behind a range of dim, blue hills; long shadows were rapidly spreading; the deep-water hole had lost the light; the hills behind the river were just tipped with a crimson glory, and stars seemed dropping like silver specks on the paling sky. "Long Mat," the shepherd, was later than usual.

The darkness had not quite fallen before I recognized the bleating of the flock in the distance, and soon after the white fleeces of the sheep slowly appeared from out the sombre shadows of the trees. I had just walked inside the hut to prepare supper, when the quick, muffled fall of a horse's feet became audible. I knew the canter well, and came to the door to await the arrival of Mr. S——, the owner of the station. He galloped up to the hut, with a cheerful "Good evening, Bill," and as usual came inside to ask me if I wanted anything, and to light his pipe.

"I can't stay long with you this time, Bill," he said pleasantly, but with a little anxiety; "the black fellows are about again. I hope your gun is in order. Do you want any powder or lead?"

"We have quite enough," I replied, "both for Mat and myself; but there's no bullets; I'll run them to-morrow. Mat's rather late this evening, but the flock's not far off; they'll be home in a quarter of an hour; I saw them pass the belt before you came."

At this instant the shadow of a man darkened the door, and Mat entered.

"Good evening" he said, quietly, to Mr. S—— and myself. "The sheep's feedin' home all right, sir, but there's a few missin'. One of my marked ewes is gone, and I can't see two of the crawlers."

"You'll pick them up to-morrow, Mat," replied the strong, pleasant voice of the squatter. "Bill says you've got enough powder and lead. The blacks are about; do you know that?"

Without waiting for an answer, Mr. S—— proceeded to undo his horse, and was about to mount, when Mat said: "I guess you had better stop to-night, sir."

"Why?"

"Injuns is close up. One of the sheep I spoke of was speared.

"I heard there were black fellows about," said Mr. S——, delaying to mount, "but the ride is safe enough; I've got my rifle with me."

"They're too close," responded the shepherd, after filling a panikin of tea, and contrary to his custom, standing his gun against the table.

We looked at him inquiringly. He kept his eyes wandering over and around the flocks, while he explained: "Wall, you see sir, after seein' the spear wound on the crawler, I looked about me purty sharp, but couldn't see nothin' till I was leavin' the belt there, when I sighted one of the varmints wrigglin' through the grass like a snake. I was goin' to give him a pill, but I saw another wriggle in his wake, and then another; and," continued the narrator, with something like a glow of expectation, "they ain't far off now, I reckon."

He had scarcely uttered the words when he lifted both hands and struck Mr. S—— full on the chest with enough force to drive him to the extreme end of the hut. At the same instant a spear whizzed through the open doorway, and quivered in the slabs behind.

"By gum——"

More remarks were drowned by a loud, quivering snort from the poor horse; a moment after, and he rolled heavily across the hut-door, completely blocking up the entrance.

Mat muttered away. "First-rate for us coons! Ye'd better bar the door Bill! Doctor! doctor! doctor! Pst! pst! Here lad." The dog leaped on the shepherd. "By gum," he said, "I thought he was outside."

By this time Mr. S—— was coolly reconnoitering through the loopholes. He had let down the window, and was preparing for action as unconcernedly as the shepherd.

These quiet, brave men inspired me with confidence, and I remember thinking, as I threw water on the fire, so as to extinguish all light, that the black fellows had met with their match. By this time the moon was up, and the light was gradually growing on the landscape. At first we could discern the outlines of the trees, and then, as the night withered, the white seared grass between the shadows. There was a long time of silence. Mat, Mr. S—— and myself had our barrels through the loop-holes and were closely watching for any movement outside. The convulsive shuddering of the horse had ceased, and there was a painful silence. The squatter and Mat were like two statues, and notwithstanding the quiet breathing of the dog and the croaking of the frogs along the river, there seemed to be a frightful significance in the silence that was brooding above these sounds. Every instant I was expecting a rush from the outside, but there was not a sign nor sound to betray the presence of any enemy. The sheep were camping quietly round the hurdles. Silence—the bright moon—the white fleeces mingling with the color of the grass—the still shadows of the trees—the far black forest—the spectral tracery of the branches in the moonlight. The silence was terrible. One of the outside wethers rose and walked forward a few yards, then commenced stamping quickly on the ground.

"Darn my eyes!" said Mat, for the first time breaking the silence, "if the Ole Parson hain't sighted one of the niggers."

The "Ole Parson" was a patriarch wether that was afflicted with the foot-rot, and usually fed on his knees.

"So he has; and by gum there's a crowd—the whole tribe hev come to visit. Not enough in shade, boss," concluded Mat, after another interval, and in a hard-whispering tone.

The next moment the first report rang out into myriad echoes. A shrill death-shout followed, as the dark figure of a man leaped with a sudden force from the ambush and fell prone, gurgling out blood and broken words.

"Now, boss," said Mat, looking out, but still charging: "Fifty yards to the right of the hurdle."

Boss (Mr. S——) changed the direction of the gun, and fired. The human figure seemed to sink down so quickly, so calmly, so helplessly, that I felt a strange thrill of pity.

"He's fixed safe as houses; let's physic another or two, and maybe they will make tracks," again muttered the shepherd in a tone of suppressed glee. "Cook, why the devil don't you shoot? Squint round that block to the right of the wattle."

Looking in the direction indicated by Mat, whose eyes seemed everywhere, I saw the figure of a man partially visible against the ground. He was evidently sheltering himself from the other two guns, but, owing to my silence hitherto, he must have been of the opinion that the portion of the hut where I stood was unoccupied. For an instant I could see nothing through the smoke, but it cleared almost immediately. Just as the shepherd said: "Don't shoot again—he's fixed," I saw the poor wretch staggering wildly towards the hut, and then falling with a dull sound. God forgive me, it was very like murder. This was the first life I had ever taken. The next thing I remember was Mr. S—— asking me if I had run any bullets.

"Not one."

"Have you any in the hut?"

"Not one."

Mat informed us that we were "tree'd," much in the same way as he would tell the overseer that the rations were short. He quietly pulled his gun from the loophole, saying: "I've only one more pull to keep our skins whole. We'll hev to trust to Doctor."

Mat's dog Doctor was partly a Smithfield and partly a Newfoundland. He had been trained by him to all kinds of tricks. Among others, he repeatedly took messages to the station when attached to his collar, and I presume this was the object Mat had in view when referring to him as capable of relief:

"Mister, d'ye think you kin rite a missage in the dark, or by the moonlight, askin' the hands at the Homestead to come this way? No time to lose; I see the darkies dodging round the hut. Bill, knock away the low part of the rotten slab behind your back. Here, Doctor."

The message was scrawled, and fastened to Doctor's collar in little less than a minute, and the noble brute, who seemed to know the danger, stood anxiously trembling till the preparations were completed.

As I before stated, the hut stood close to the stream, and from the rear the bank sloped abruptly towards the water. The American for the first time seemed affected. When the men fell under our shots, there was not the slightest change perceptible in his voice; but the few words he spoke to his dog were broken and singularly soft. I'll be sworn there were tears in the man's eyes. Everything being at last prepared, he spat upon the dog's muzzle, held his head close to his cheek for a moment, and then pressed him quickly out of the hole and away down the shelving bank.

We listened anxiously for a time, and then there arose a wild jabbering for a minute; the next instant we detected a yelp of pain.

"My God!" said I, involuntarily, "the Doctor's speared."

"No, he ain't, darn ye!" snapped Mat. "He's just touched, an' no more. He'll do it."

"He must be quick, then" said Mr. S——; "the black devils have struck a light somewhere, and they're going to burn us out. Look!"

Our eyes were now intently scanning the movements of the savages through the little loopholes, and we saw a flaming brand whizzing through the air and scattering sparks in all directions. It fell on the stringy bark roof over our heads. Another and another came, but it did not appear to us that any of them had taken effect.

By this time the black fellows had gathered courage. Believing our ammunition was expended, many of them had left cover, and might be seen flitting about like spectres. They had kindled a fire some distance off, and across its glare shadows were constantly falling.

The fire brands were thrown no longer; some fresh mode of attack was preparing. Our suspense continued a long period (nearly half an hour,) during which time not a word was spoken by any of us; our sole dependence was the Doctor, and if help did not soon arrive it was certain we could find no escape from the demons who were trying to compass our destruction.

"Now, look, slick," whispered Mat. I see their game; they're going to give us fits. How's the moon!—well aback of the hut, I guess. Bill, stick your cabbage tree on a pillow, and hold it at the open window when I tell you. I'll just go out and bid them good evening. Don't bar the door after me, mister, but when I show them my heels open it. You see we can't spare ammunition."

While speaking Mat unbarred the door. He slipped out noiselessly as he concluded the sentence.

Through the slabs he said to me, "D'ye see that divil with the blazing log? When he gits close to the wattle open the window, and prop up the pillow. Take care of their spears yourself."

As soon as the black fellow came to the point indicated, I opened the long, little shutter with some noise and held up the dummy. In a moment a dozen spears passed through the aperture, and I let the window fall as though one of us was mortally wounded.

There was a wild shout without. At this time the black fellow who carried the log was within a few yards of the hut, and I heard Mat preparing for his move outside. Looking out as quickly as I could, I had just time to see his tall figure emerge beyond the shade as the butt end of his gun fell crashing on the head of the fire-bearer. The door was opened as Mat turned; it required but one or two bounds to take him to the door, but the savages were too quick for him with their spears. He staggered through the entrance and fell just as he cleared the threshold.

"Caught in the thigh, I guess," he exclaimed, as he slowly recovered himself, and painfully struggled to the window. "Don't mind the spear," he remarked to me as I approached him; it's better as it is, till help comes."

"If it ever does," thought I.

The American's sortie, I belive, had rather a disastrous effect, for the black fellows seemed to conclude at once that our ammunition was all expended, and they thronged around the hut without caring to shelter themselves.

In a short time the crackling of the flames on the roof put an end to our trouble. The hut was on fire, and there was nothing left us but an attempt to dash out and clear the aborigines. I proposed this, but Mr. S—— would not try without Mat, and underneath the blazing roof, with clubbed guns, we grimly awaited the final attack. The American's rifle rested in the loophole where he had first taken up his position.

"There's the worst of them," Mat said, looking along his weapon; he's coming up with a log to stave in the door. He'll never do it;" and our last bullet brought down the the ringleader.

There was consternation and a hurried consultation. After a lapse of about five minutes, the whole force of the besiegers rushed shrieking on our little garrison. A moment's surge outside and the door fell back as Mr. S——'s gun swung down on the crowding savages with terrific force, felling two of the foremost like oxen. I remember a wild struggle with our guns and fists. Mat and the squatter towered above their opponents like giants, fighting with terrible energy. The black fellows had forced me to the ground; one was shortening the grasp of the spear to drive it through my body, when I felt a gush of blood spouting over my face and chest, just as the savage fell on me mortally wounded. Then I remember a hurrah outside, and the cracking of rifles.

"That was a good back-handed blow, boss," said Mat, faintly; "I guess the cook's got another squeak. D'ye hear that? Hooray! Knowed the Doctor would do it, said he, with renewed energy; take that." And I heard the dull sound of another blow, and a low moan of pain as the station hands rushed in. The Doctor soon recovered. So did Mat, who is now one of the richest men in the colonies. I—well, I have a large scar across my breast.

THE MILLER'S WILL.

Bedford Row is a spot that everybody knows, but no one knows it better than Mr. Manby, the famous solicitor.

People meeting him only on legal business, consider him a dry, cautious man, far more disposed to question than to answer or pass an opinion; but at times, he is very different. If on a quiet evening there is only a comfortable pair, or, at most, a trio of friends present, Manby unbends, and at once becomes the most genial and frank of hosts. He can tell many stories of his curious experiences and difficult cases.

About the neatest and most curious case of fraud I ever handled," he said, "was in connection with a testy old client of mine, a miller by trade. He had made a deal of money, and didn't know what to do with it. The man's name was Stokes—Matthew Stokes.

"One day he called upon me, and said he wanted to ask my opinion upon some matter, but I soon found he had made up his mind what to do, and asking my opinion was only his way of getting me to carry out his ideas. He went into the story with great energy and bitterness. He was worth thousands, he said—that I knew—all invested, and his only heir was his daughter, an only child, who had aggravated him by eloping, and marrying one of his clerks named Morely. 'The clerk was one of those good-looking whipper-snappers,' the old man said with passion. 'Never could see anything in him but impudence and talk—a kind of cleverness that would have helped to make him a good showman—but she thought him heavenly; and after they got to love each other, as he said, if his impudence didn't write to me, asking me to give him my daughter in marriage! I gave him his notice at once, and a fortnight's wages; but that didn't cure the silly girl. She took to moping and melancholy.

"'One day I found she had eloped, and the next he sent me word they were married. I felt awfully, I tell you, and could have killed him if I'd met him that day, and her, too, almost. They're miserably poor, that's one comfort, though he's in a place and does copying at night, and they've some children and lots of trouble; so I ought to be happy if I ain't. But here's the danger. I'm getting old, and my doctor says I might be taken off suddenly, so I want you to make my will, strong and firm as you can make it, doing her out of the least chance of getting any money—cutting her off with a shilling, as it is called.'

"'Seeing you've no other relations for whom you care, do I understand you wish the money left to charities?' I said, not liking my task over well, for I had no doubt that if the poor daughter had been there she could have given quite a different look to the love story.

"'To charity? No, hang charity,' he cried with a snort. 'I want it all given to Henry Gunson, a cousin of mine in the city. I don't care twopence for him, and I know little about him, but he once did me a kindness. It's all the same to me who gets the money, so as they don't get it. See?'

"I did see perfectly, but thought I would try to alter his determination, for if one thing displeases me more than another, it is to be the means of carrying dissension and hatred beyond the grave. Could he not, instead of trying to crush the young man who married his daughter, try to lift him up? From his own account it appeared that he was a hard-working, diligent fellow, toiling hard for his wife and children. What more could a father wish for his son-in-law? In a word, I tried to pour oil upon the waters, but I might as well have poured it upon the fire. The fury of the old man increased, and was even turned upon me when I pointed out that in commercial circles, the cousin, Henry Gunson, of whom he had spoken, was looked upon with strong suspicions owing to an ugly bankruptcy case with which I had to do. He remained unmoved.

"'I tell you it's all the same to me who gets it,' he persisted. 'It's nothing to me whether the man's good or bad. Disobedience in children must be punished, and I can't do better than enrich my own cousin.'

"Finding him so firmly resolved, I promised to have a draft of his will prepared, and to send it to him for perusal by my confidential clerk, which was done the following week. The witnesses were clerks of my own. When signed, I was about to place it with the other papers connected with his business, but the old man snappishly told me that he meant to keep that himself, and accordingly it was handed to him.

"Two or three years passed, during which time I made large and frequent investments for him, but no further mention was made of his will. One morning I received a note from his housekeeper, telling of his somewhat sudden death, and shortly after reading the note I was called upon by the cousin, Henry Gunson.

"I am a good judge of faces, and disliked the man the moment I saw him. He was no hypocrite, and made no show of sham grief at the death of his relative; on the contrary, he smiled and appeared perfectly jubilant at the stroke of good fortune.

"'You have heard,' he said, 'I believe, of my cousin's death, and I came here because he once told me that, three or four years since, you had drawn up a will in my favor.'

"All this was natural enough, but there was something in the man's manner that made me study his face closely. It seemed to me that under an appearance of simplicity he was playing a deep game. Yet what game could he be playing? I was forced to dismiss the thought, and turn my attention to business.

"'It is true that Mr. Stokes did instruct me to draw up such a will, but he did not intrust the keeping of the document to me,' I answered. 'I have the draft of it, and that is all.'

"The man looked startled, but the look was not one of genuine surprise, and only made me suspect him more than ever.

"'Where in the world can the will be, then?' he said. 'Perhaps you could go out with me and take charge of things, and see if it can be found?'

"This was said with a curious look into my face, as if he had been saying to himself, 'I wonder if he suspects me?' and, contrary to my usual practice, I resolved to go in person instead of sending a clerk.

"A cab which he kept in waiting took us to the house, in which we found the nurse who had attended the old man in his illness, and an elderly woman who had acted as housekeeper. The nurse was not so stupid as many old-fashioned nurses, and took occasion, during a momentary absence of Gunson, to draw me aside and say, 'I hope the old man's money won't go to that man. He was here ever so often before Mr. Stokes died, and they quarrelled hot, I can tell you.'

"'What did they quarrel about?' I asked, with much interest.

"'I think that man asked for money, for I heard him say: "I shall be ruined if I cannot pay." I did not hear all that was said, but it was bitter while it lasted, and the old man had me in with a fearful ring of the bell, and told me to show that villain out.'

"'I saw murder in his eye,' he said, 'and not a penny of my money shall he ever finger. I wish I knew where my poor girl lives. She should have it all, poor thing.' Then he ordered me out of the room, and I heard him shuffle across to the fire, and when I came back I could see he had burned something in the fireplace—which, I believe, sir, was the will.'

"No doubt the old man's days had been shortened by the excitement from these frequent quarrels. When a man of no moral principles, like Gunson, is given an interest in another's death, it is not at all unlikely that he will try to hasten the removal of all that stands between him and a fortune—especially when he thinks it can be done without danger of discovery. I felt, however, as the man rejoined me, a thorough repugnance to him, and was very near telling him not to trouble to look for the will, as I had reason to believe that it had been destroyed, but I conquered the feeling as well as I could; and, indeed, I had no evidence to prove that the will had been destroyed.

"The housekeeper then showed us a trunk in which old Stokes had kept all his papers. I opened it, and at the top I found a little packet of letters from his daughter. I glanced at one; it was full of sorrow and tenderness, asking so earnestly if she might show him their boy. The letter went on: 'We call him Matthew, father; and when we were without bread the little fellow said he would come to you and ask for some for mother. He was sure you would not say no; but now my dear husband has work, and although it would not be to beg we should come, yet I do want, dear father, to see you once more.' Over the next few words the ink had run, or the paper had got so wet that I could not read them. Perhaps, if the miller had been alive, he could have told us how this happened.

"I folded up the letter, and turning suddenly to Gunson, who had been looking over me, I saw a sardonic smile on his face, which did not improve my opinion of him. We went over all the papers, but could not find the will.

"Just as I was about to close the trunk, Gunson said: 'We have not looked in the pocket inside the lid.' I did so, and to my surprise came upon a folded paper, which appeared to be the will, or so exact a copy of it that I was not prepared to deny its identity. It was written on a kind of paper that I have used for that purpose for half a life-time, and the writing was unmistakably that of a clerk of mine named Peter Chipps. The signatures, too, were all right, so far as I could see, but yet I had a doubt. I caught myself taking the valuable paper out of my pocket and scanning it closely when Gunson was not by, as if half expecting the senseless paper to reveal some subtile treachery. I got back to my office as soon as possible, and read the will carefully through; then I hunted up the original draft, and found that it agreed perfectly.

"For some two or three days the matter stood over, for I was called out of town on urgent business, but the morning of my return I was told that an old woman—the nurse of Matthew Stokes—had called to see me during my absence. She would not leave any message, but said she would call when I returned to town. That day, as I was leaving the office the nurse came, full of apology, and hoping I should not think any the worse of her for what she had to tell me. 'You know,' she said, 'I told you that I believed that Mr. Stokes burnt his will, and my reason for thinking so is this: when he was asleep I picked up two little bits of paper from the ashes, and I have kept them in my pocket ever since, and here they are.'

"Hastily taking them from her, I could see from these scraps that it must have been the will that Matthew Stokes destroyed, for they read:

"'My real and personal —— —— ——
—— Henry Gunson —— —— ——
—— —— —— —— —— the testator in ——
—— —— —— —— —— —— his presence
and in'

"I compared the scraps of paper with the copy I found in the trunk, and it was without doubt in the same handwriting. I would have turned to the clerk, whose name stood first as witness, but he was dead; or to the one who had written and witnessed the original will, and who, at this moment, I felt sure must know something of this fraud, but he had gone to drink a year or two before, and I had been reluctantly compelled to part with him. I asked if any one had his address, and by a strange coincidence a letter had come from him that very day to one of my clerks, asking him to call, for he was very ill. The moment I heard that I started off for Peter's lodgings in a cab. I found him in bed, evidently in a rapid consumption, and had only to hold up the forged will and say significantly, 'How on earth did you come to do this?' to make the blood leave his face. He would not confess, however, until I gave him a pledge that he would not be punished for his share in the forgery, and that was more than I could take on me to promise, so I left him, and made my way to the miserable home of the Morley's in Golden Lane. By miserable I don't mean unhappy, but poor. When I was admitted to the house I found they occupied two rooms on the second floor. The heiress of Stokes's large fortune was busy on her knees before the fire, toasting bread for her husband's tea, and her own rosy cheeks at the same time, and Morley himself seated in a corner of the room writing with a swift hand at the law papers he spent his evenings in copying. Mrs. Morley was quite a young thing, and so good-looking that I could scarcely believe her the daughter of my deceased client.

"When I told them of the death of old Matthew Stokes, any one would have thought they had lost their kindest friend. His daughter was overcome with grief. I assured her that from what I had heard her father had forgiven her, and if he had known their address he certainly would have sent for them. Both listened breathlessly to my story, and when I gave my opinion that nothing now could stand in the way of her inheriting her father's wealth, she simply went to her husband, clasped him in her arms and kissed him, and then burst into tears. But when I spoke of prosecuting her father's cousin, she, with the true tenderness and tact of a woman, said: 'No; my poor father would not have disgraced a relative, even though he deserved it. Perhaps if you wrote to him, telling him what you have discovered, he will trouble us no more.'

"It was hard to let the rascal slip, but I wrote to Gunson accordingly, and if my pen had been dipped in acid I could not have written stronger. He needed no second dose. Without even having the politeness to reply, he was off to America by the quickest route, fearing every inch of the way, I expect, that the police were in his wake. I got the whole details of the plot out of Peter Chipps, from which it appeared that Gunson no sooner discovered that his cousin had really burned the will formerly executed in his favor, than he sought out my late clerk as a fitting tool to produce a duplicate from the draft. The price given was a mere trifle—some £5 or £6; but Peter had resolved to bleed his employer without mercy the moment he got possession of the old man's money, by means of the forged document. Peter was dying when he made the confession, but Mrs. Morley was at his house the next day, and took the poor fellow's breath away by telling him she would see that his wife and children were well cared for. The stricken man stared at her some moments in dead silence, and then he feebly snatched at her hand and burst into tears. He couldn't speak, but the simple gesture said more than a thousand words could have conveyed.

"Mrs. Morley has not been spoiled by her good fortune. She is the same loving and generous-hearted woman that she was in poverty. She declares to this day that she is not a whit more happy in her grand house than she was in the two-pair back in Golden Lane. And I believe she speaks the truth."

General Miscellany.

THE BLIND SPINNER.

BY FREDERICK BROOKS.

Like a blind spinner in the sun,
I spend my days:
I know that all the threads will run
Appointed ways;
I know each day will bring its task,
And, being blind, no more I ask.

I do not know the use or name
Of that I spin.
I only know that some one came
And laid within
My hand the thread, and said, "Since you
Are blind, but one thing you can do."

Sometimes the threads so rough, so fast,
And tangled fly,
I know wild storms are sweeping past,
And for that I
Shall fall, but dare not try to find
A safer place, since I am blind.

I know not why, but I am sure
That time and place
In some great fabric to endure
Find fine and rare
My threads will have. So from the first,
Though blind, I never felt accursed.

I think, perhaps, this trust has sprung
From one short word
Said over me when I was young—
So young I heard
It, knowing not that God's name signed
My brow, and sealed me His, though blind.

But whether this be seal or sign
Within, without,
It matters not; the hand Divine
I never doubt.
I know He set me here, and still,
And glad and blind, I wait His will.

But listen, listen, day by day,
To hear their tread
Who hear the finished web away,
And cut the thread,
And bring God's message in the sun,
"Thou poor, blind spinner, work is done."

SUPERSTITIONS ABOUT THE MOON.

One of the superstitions associated with the moon is its supposed influence in healing certain diseases. In the South of England the May new moon is said to have a share in curing scrofulous complaints. An interesting case is related of a man residing near Chichester, who twice travelled into Dorsetshire with different members of his family, to place them under a "cunning man" residing there. His charms were only potent in the month of May. He further required his patients to have their eyes fixed upon the new May moon while they received from his hands boxes of ointment made from herbs gathered when the moon was full. On one occasion as many as two hundred persons waited to be charmed. In Staffordshire a remedy for whooping cough consists in taking out the child to let it see the new moon, at the same time rubbing its stomach and repeating the following invocation:—

What I see, may it increase;
What I feel, may it decrease,
In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

In Cornwall the club-moss, if properly gathered, is considered "good against all diseases of the eyes." The gathering is regarded as a mystery, and if any man ventures to write the secret, the virtues of the moss avail him no more. In spite of this, however, some one has boldly revealed to us this wonderful secret, the mystery of which, to quote his own words, is this:—"On the third day of the moon, when the thin crescent is seen for the first time, show it the knife with which the moss is to be cut, and say:—

As Christ healed the issue of blood,
Do thou cut what thou cuttest for good.

At sundown, having carefully washed the hands, the club-moss is to be cut kneeling. It is to be carefully wrapped in a fine linen cloth, and subsequently boiled in some water taken from the spring nearest to its place of growth. This may be used as a fomentation, or the club-moss may be made into an ointment with butter made from the milk of a new cow. In Devonshire the hair and nails should always be cut during the waning of the moon, and persons troubled with corns are recommended to cut them after the moon has been at its full.

When the moon's horns appear to point upward, it is said by the weather wise to be like a boat, and in many parts there is an idea that when it is thus situated there will be no rain—a superstition which George Eliot describes in "Adam Bede;"—"It 'ud ha' been better luck if they'd ha' buried him i' the forenoon, when the rain was fallin'; there's no likelihood of a drop now. An' the moon lies like a boat there. That's a sure sign of fair weather." According to sailors, when the moon is in this position, it denotes fine weather, for, to use their phrase:—"You might hang your hat upon it." In Liverpool, however, it is considered a sign of foul weather, as the moon is now considered to be like a basin full of water about to fall. The Scotch proverb expressive of the same fancy inculcates the following admonition:—

"The honeymoon is on her back;
Mend your shoes and sort your thack."

Whenever a planet or large star is seen near the moon it is said by seafaring men to prognosticate boisterous weather, for, to make use of their term, "A big star is dogging the moon." "Some years ago," says a correspondent of *Notes and Queries*, "a fisherman of Torquay told me, after a violent gale, that he had foreseen the storm, as he had observed one star ahead of the moon towing her and another astern chasing her."—*N. Y. Herald.*

THE BIG WORDS OF SCIENCE.

Monstrosities of diction are not confined to chemical science, but are to found in physics as well as metaphysics. We recently gave some samples of the extraordinary and absurd length to which the names of certain organic salts had grown, and we may now add the following choice specimen of imagery (from a recently published paper by Sir William Thomson) to illustrate the grand style in modern natural philosophy. "The stream-lines," says the distinguished Glasgow physicist, "are as represented in the diagram, in which the region of translational-velocity greater than wave-propagational velocity is separated from the region of translational-velocity less than wave-propagational velocity by a cat's-eye border pattern of elliptic whirls." The curious mixture of homely simile and abstract terminology in this passage is highly ludicrous. Its obsurity is, however, surpassed by Mr. Herbert Spencer's famous "Formula of Evolution," which runs: "Evolution is a change from an indefinite, incoherent homogeneity to a definite, coherent heterogeneity, through continuous differentiations and integrations," which being interpreted into plain English by Mr. Kirkman, the mathematician, means: "Evolution is a change from a nohowish, untalkaboutable all-alikeness to a somehowish, and in-general-talk-aboutable not-all-alikeness, by continuous some-thing-elsefications and stick-togetherations." As a clever travesty on the above cacophononous mystification of Mr. Herbert Spencer, which, like the language of diplomacy, conceals the meaning it ought to express, we have Mr. Kirkman's "Formula of Universal Change," which is: "Change is a perichoretical synechy of pampararadagmatic and porroteroporeumatical differentiation and integrations." After such pedantry as this, the clown in Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" who "did impeticos thy gratility" is absolutely nowhere.—*London Globe.*

ARCTIC EXPLORATION FOR 1882.

Preparations are being made by nearly all the countries of Europe and by America for a regular Arctic siege, to begin in 1882, the days of Arctic campaigns are past. We have reached the precincts of the citadel itself, and now the sappers and miners must begin their slow but sure work, to be capped at the proper time by a grand assault. Germany, Austria, Norway, Sweden, Russia, Denmark, and the United States, and we believe Canada, are all to take part in this great work by establishing observing stations at suitable points all around the polar area; while Italy is to send out next year a scientifically equipped expedition to the antarctic region, our knowledge of which is meagre and uncertain. This last will be an observing as well as an exploring expedition preparatory to the establishment of an antarctic station. Should our Geographical Society take any steps in the direction of Arctic work, we trust it will not be to encourage the foolish venture for which the country has been canvassed for subscriptions for years.

We hope that society will see that as a scientific body its duty is to encourage a scientific method of work; and if it appeals to the government at all, let it be to urge it, for the honor of our country, to join in the concert of both hemispheres for the siege of the polar citadel. We have already pointed out on several occasions the vast gains to science that might be expected from the work of a series of polar observatories established on the plans so ably sketched by Lieutenant Weyprecht. As Dr. Neumayer said in a recent address, men of science do not demand practical or so-called utilitarian reasons before giving their adhesion to any new work; it is enough if it can be shown that such work will conduce to the advancement of knowledge, and that Weyprecht's scheme of polar observatories, of which so many governments approve, will lead to vast additions being made to scientific knowledge, no man of science needs to be told. In meteorology, terrestrial magnetism, biology, geology and glacial physics, the gains would be immense; and the history of science has taught us over and over again that the surest path to practical and beneficent results is through the gate of pure scientific research. Every day is the science of meteorlogoy becoming more and more important; but until we are thoroughly acquainted with the meteorology of the Arctic regions the most practical of sciences is deprived of what is perhaps its most important factor. But one element of the international scheme is that of polar exploration, conducted, however, on scientific method, and along lines indicated by a scientific knowledge of Arctic conditions such as can only be obtained by permanent observing stations. What success is likely to result from Arctic work carried out on such a method was triumphantly shown by Baron Nordenskiöld when he sailed along the northeast passage in the Vega.

Why, then, should not England set up a station on Franz-Josef Land, and another, say, on some part of the American coast? Let the station be provided with the means of carrying out exploration in whatever direction and by whatever means the results of continued observation may indicate, as far as the pole itself, if need be. Unless we are blind to the teachings of science and the lessons of our last expensive expedition, it is clear that this is the only sure method of reaching the pole, if it be thought absolutely necessary for the credit of England that she should be the first to get at a point which it will take considerable trouble to spot. If our Government be well advised, we are sure they will never give the public funds either for any great national expedition modelled on the lines of the past, nor to any private chimera got up for the glory of one man and the gratification of balloonists. We do not see how, without national discredit, England can keep aloof from an international scheme, the scientific and practical results of which will be of world-wide importance; and it is the duty of the Geographical Society to lend all the weight of its influence to induce the English Government to take up its share in the new and only effectual method of polar exploration.—*Nature.*

THE ISRAELITE AS A FIGHTER.

The persecution of the Jews in Prussia—led by the Court Chaplain, Stocker, and Professor Treitschke—presents this novel phase; that the Jews are by no means inclined toward the Christian doctrine of offering the other cheek to be slapped after the first side has received the blow. If the London *Times'* correspondent is to be credited, a Jewish volunteer lately shot his lieutenant for some insult: a Jewish traveler in a public conveyance caned a professor of a gymnasium; a Jewish student in Gottingen killed a Christian fellow-student in a duel; and a Jewish merchant in open 'Change boxed a Christian trader's ears. The *Times* distinctly states that all these unfortunate incidents were "preceded by some violent act on the part of the Christian antagonists." This only shows that there is much more fight in the German Jew than was expected, and we suppose that his co-religionists on this side of the water are rather pleased that he should show his combativeness. As to possessing personal courage, it is very stupid to suppose from his antecedents that the Jews are not brave as any other race During our own civil strife there were a great many Jews in arms on both sides, and more than once their gallantry was commented upon. In some recent Indian skirmishes, the services of a Jew, who was a volunteer, were especially extolled by his commanding officer for coolness and gallantry. There have been occasionally, in our regular service, Jews who were fire-eaters of the most eccentric character. Captain Levy, of the United States navy, was of this kind, and was so keen to bring a fellow-mortal on the field of honor that he never was so supremely happy as when he had an affair with pistols at ten paces. In the English navy some very brave and cool work has been done by Jewish officers. Of course, going down to brute pluck and the lowest animal instincts, the annals of the prize ring show a great many able Jewish pugilists, who, forty years ago, for punching anybody's head, or taking any amount of punishment themselves, were quite the compeers of the most illustrious Christian boxers of Corinthian times. It is quite a mistake, then, to imagine that the Jew will not fight. He may not retort with his fist or a stick, except under positive aggression; but if he thinks he is right, he is quite as hot-blooded as any individual of another race. If, then, in Prussia the Jew has been made a soldier, and has withstood charges of French cavalry, or crossed bayonets with zouaves, he has acquired some confidence in his own physical strength, and, above all, has been taught some little punctiliousness in regard to his own honor. To descend to fisticuffs will not, of course, settle the question; but an occasional set-to in good English style, and a show of personal pluckiness on the part of the Jews in Germany, can do them no harm.

A TRUE PLOVER SHOOTING STORY.

With a Moral.

It is said that "the best laid schemes of mice and men gang aft a-gley," and thus must all those have thought who have tried upland plover shooting.

Of all the birds on the sportsman's list, the gray or grass plover is the wildest and most not get-at-able. Unlike his wary uncle, the goose, he will be enticed by neither stool nor call, in fact his cry is so hard to imitate that we have only known one man who could correctly counterfeit it. This was an old bayman of Long Island, who used to say that when he first got it down fine, he used to fool himself, so much so that he would in an abstracted moment go and hide. Down in the East the good folks call this plover the Humility or Humilt for short, perhaps on account of his modest and retiring nature, but the Yankees used to circumvent him occasionally by shooting out of wagons or from behind a stalking horse.

Our story takes us back to many years ago, when the pasture lands of Orange county, N. J., were a favorite rambling place for young plover. They came there in September in flocks of hundreds, filling the air with their plaintive call and straining the "long Toms" of the Jersey farmers.

It was a crisp, frosty morning that four of us crossed the bay from the beach to have a crack at the plover that frequented the rolling upland pastures of the mainland. The Hon. S. was of the party, a short, jolly personage, of fifty summers, well grounded in all that pertained to sport, but extremely near-sighted. The prow of our skiff had but just grated against the sand, when the Hon. S. drew from under the gunwale of the boat a huge cow's skin, surmounted with a pair of huge horns. To don this and securely fasten it by knotting a short piece of fish line around his neck, was but the work of a moment. He then looked up, and with a Satanic smile: "Boys, I've got them now." Away to the westward rolled the hills, dotted here and there with large herds of cattle, while from the wettish slashes between the knolls the flute-like note of plover was born down the air. "Now, boys," said the gay deceiver, you station yourselves